Britannia Baconica:

Or, The Natural

RARITIES

OF

England, Scotland, & Wales.

According as they are to be fouud in every SHIRE.

Hiſtorically related, according to the Precepts of the Lord *Bacon*; Methodically digeſted; and the Cauſes of many of them Philoſophically attempted.

WITH

Obſervations upon them; and Deductions from them, whereby divers Secrets in Nature are diſcovered, and ſome things hitherto reckoned Prodigies, are fain to confeſs the cauſe whence they proceed.

Uſefull for all ingenious men of what Profeſſion or Quality ſoever.

By *J. CHILDREY.*

Res ſemper aliquid apportat novi. Terent.

LONDON, Printed for the Author, and are to be ſold by *H.E.* at the ſign of the *Grey-hound* in St. *Pauls* Church-yard, 1660.


Jos: Banks

Bod. Bodleian

To the Right Honourable, my most Noble Lord and Master, HENRY Somerset *Lord* HERBERT, *&c.*

It may please your Lordship,

THe Calling I have entred into, and the capacity wherein I have the honor to serve your Lordship, wil (I fear) offend the weak tenderneſſe of ſome, who think theſe deep ſearches into reaſon, miſ-becoming a Preacher of Faith, and the contemplation of the works of Nature very impedimentall (if not deſtructive) to the work of Grace; and give them occaſion to cenſure me for dealing ſo far with Philoſo-

phy. Yet somewhat I have to plead in excuse of my self; supposing what I do, to be a crime: And more I have to plead in defence of my self, that what I do is no crime at all. The smallness of the work, together with its being written, before I put my hand to the plough, is enough to excuse me, and extenuate the crime; were it indeed, what it is onely supposed to be. But seeing the fortress is defensible, it can be held for no less then cowardice to capitulate. It would not a little disparage a good cause to seek to excuse that, which may be justified; especially since it hath so learned and solid a Lawyer, as the Lord Chancellor *Bacon* to plead in its behalfe. *Philosophia Naturalis* (saith that eloquent Wit) *Post Verbum Dei certissima Superstitionis Medicina est; eademq; probatissimum fidei alimentum*

Nov. Organ. l. 1 Aph. 89.

limentum. Itaque meritò Religioni do-
atur, tanquam fidissima ancilla: cum
ltera Voluntatem Dei, altera Potesta-
em manifestet. Neque enim erravit ille
ui dixit, Erratis, nescientes Mat. 22. 29.
Scripturas, & Potestatem
Dei; informationem de Voluntate, &
neditationem de Potestate, nexu indivi-
duo commiscens, & copulans. Natu-
rall Philosophy, next to Gods Word, is
he most Soveraign Antidote to expell
he poison of Superstition; and not only
so, but also the most approved food to
nourish Faith. And therefore well may
she be given to Religion as her most
faithful handmaid: seeing the one shews
us the Wil of God, and the other his Po-
wer Nor was he out that said, Ye do err,
not knowing the Scriptures, nor the
Power of God: joyning these two to-
gether, Instruction touching the Will,
and Meditation on the Power, as inse-
parable, and equally necessary. Want

of Philoſophy is indeed the *Nurſ*
of *Superſtition*: whence the igno
rant age, or *Childhood* of the *World*
in which the *Natural cauſes of Eclip*
ſes, Comets, Thunder, Earthquakes
and the like were not known, wa
the moſt *Superſtitious*: As are alſo
at this day the *ſimple* and moſt *vul*
gar ſort of men. Who (like thoſe
others, that the ſame *Noble Author*
mentions in the ſame *Aphoriſme*)
Ibidem *conjiciunt ſingula ad Manum,*
& Virgulam Divinam (quod Religi
onis, ut putant, maximè interſit) faci
lius poſſe referri: quod nihil aliud eſt
quàm Deo per mendacium gratificari
velle. They conceive (ſaith he) that
without enquiring into the middle and
inferiour cauſes, all effects may more
eaſily be referred to the immediate act
and finger of God, the ſupream cauſe,
as conducing moſt of all to the intereſt
of Religion; Which is as much, as to

go about to flatter the God of Truth with a lye, and to make him, what hee is not, or would not be thought. All the treasure of the Earth is Gods, (who doubts it?) for *Domini est terra, & plenitudo ejus*: Yet when our *Saviour* in the *Gospel* saw the *Emperors stamp* upon the *penny* brought to him, he thought it no *robbery*, nor *injury to his Father*, to say: *Reddite quæ Cæsaris sunt, Cæsari; & quæ Dei, Deo.* Give unto Cesar the things that are Cesars, and unto God, the things that are Gods; That is, that are Gods immediate own. Even so I confess all *effects* and *things*, from the very *foundation* of the *world* to this present day, are the *works* of *God*. Yet because I find *Natures superscription* on many (if not most) of them, (though in *some* it be not so legible as in others) I hold it no *impiety*, or *robbing God of his Glory*, Psalm 24. 1.

to

to ſay: *Reddite naturæ*, &c. *Give unto Nature, the works that are Natures: And unto God, thoſe that are Gods.* There being a great difference between the dividing of the *Red Sea*, and *Jordan*, by *Moſes* and *Joſhua*: and the dividing of the River *Ouſe* in *Bedfordſhire*, related in this Book: And between the ſmall Vermine that infeſted the Egyptians, and the *Phthiriaſis* in the Philoſophers finger. Which difference nevertheleſſe without Philoſophy we are not capable of knowing, but are apt to think all ſtrange things Supernaturall: and (like thoſe miſtaken Philoſophers, who think the Magnet hath its *Vis directrix*, from the Poleſtar) to ſeek for that cauſe above, which we may find here below.

Beſides, it is apparent by ſeverall paſſages in the Book of God, that many of the Secretaries of the Holy Ghoſt

Ghoſt (as *Moſes*, *David*, *Iſaiah*, *Amos*, *&c.*) had either from their own parts & induſtry, the acquired: or from their inſpirer the infuſed knowledge of naturall things: which they were not aſhamed to make uſe of, even when they were about Gods great work. Nor could the extremity of *Jobs* miſeries make him forget or lay by thoſe Mathematicks, Io. 33. 31. 32 which he had learnt in the time of his proſperity. But the example of *Solomon* puts the matter out of all ſcruple, whoſe divine Pen (ſo often ſerviceable to the Spirit of God) did more then divert it ſelf with Philoſophy, writing whole Volumes of the Hiſtory of Nature. For we are told, that *he ſpake* (with the tongue of his Pen) *of* 1 Kin. 4. 33. *Trees, from the Cedar tree, that is in Lebanon, even unto the Hyſop that ſpringeth out of the Wall: As alſo of*

braſs

beaſts, and of fowle, and of creeping things, and of fiſhes. And we are told it by him, who ſurely would not have commended it, had he diſliked it.

Yet not but that (as want of Philoſophy nouriſheth Superſtition, ſo) a care ſhould be taken on the other ſide, leaſt the abuſe of Philoſophy Col. 2. 8. cauſe Prophaneneſs and Atheiſme, which lyes as much againſt God, as Superſtition doth for him.

My Lord, though all this be truth, and nothing but reaſon, yet ſo petulant is prejudice, that it will not paſſe for ſuch, unleſs beſides its dead Advocate to defend it, it alſo have a living Patron to afford it the influence of his countenance & protection. Which favour I moſt humbly beg of your Lordſhip, both for my ſelf and my book; but withal your

pardon

pardon for my being so bold to beg it: and for daring to prefixe your Noble name to the contemptible endeavours of

My very good Lord

Your Honours most faithful,
and ever devoted Servant
and Chaplain

J. CHILDREY.

The



The Preface to the READER.

THE *deſigne of the enſuing Tract is to make it ſelfe* uſeful & ſatisfactory *to* all *ſorts of men. For every man is either one of theſe three*; One *of the* Vulgar, *a* Gentleman, *or a* Schollar: Or elſe (*to avoid cavilling*) *he is both* Gentleman *and* Schollar. *And*

Firſt, this Book is intended for the uſe of the Vulgar, *to teach them not to* miſ-believe *or* condemn *for* untruths *all that ſeemes* ſtrange, *and above their wit to give a reaſon for, who are the leaſt able of all men to do it. For here*

they

they may read as strange *things*, (and *yet* true) *as any of those reported*, *or written by* Travellers; *and* reform *their* Judgements *into so much* Charity, *as to think*, *that* many Travellers do not make so much use of their Authority to lye, as they might. *Not that* I *will* undertake *for* the truth *of all the* Relations *in* Mandevile, *and other* credulous Writers; *but so much may be said in their* behalf, *that all is not as the most is*; *that they have many* Truths *interserted with their* fables *and* falshoods, *and some of them altogether as* improbable *as* they. *Here are no* stories *told you of what is to be* seen *at the* other end of the world, *but of things at* home, *in your own* Native Countrey, *at your own* doors, *easily examinable with* little travel, lesscost, *and* very little hazard. *This book doth not shew you a* Telescope, *but a* Mirror, *it goes not about to put a* delightful

cheat

cheat *upon you, with* objects *at a great* distance, *but shews you your* selves.

Next I intend this Book *for the* service *of the* Gentry, *that they may see* England *is not void of those things which they* admire *abroad in their* travels. *And that those ingenious* Gentlemen *whose* occasions *carry them into several* Counties, *or who are otherwise disposed to see the* sports *of* Nature *about them, may know by this Portable-book, in what* parts *of what* Counties *to find them. As* Italy *hath* Virgils Grott, *and the* Sybils Cave *by* Puteoli; *so* England *hath* Okey-hole *by* Wells. *We have* Baiæ *at* Bath; *the* Alpes *in* North-Wales; Mount Baldus *under the* Picts Wall, *the* Spaw *in* Yorkshire; Euripus *at* Pool *in* Dortshire; Gabij *in* Lincolnshire; Asphaltites *at* Pitchford *in* Shropshire; Harpasa *in* Cornwall, *the* Pyramides

at Burrowbriggs, *the* Pearls *of* Persia *on the* shores *of* Westmorland; *the* Diamonds *of* India *on* St. Vincents Rock. *And what is there* worth wonder *abroad in the* world, *whereof*. Nature *hath not written a* Copy *in our* Island? *I would have those that know* other *Countreys so well, not to be strangers to* their own, *which is a* compendium *of all others.*

Lastly and chiefly, *My end is to serve the* Commonwealth of Learning, *which much wants such* Histories *as this to be written, and laid as a sure* Foundation, *whereon to build those* Axiomes *that make us* true Schollars *and* knowing men *in* Philosophy. *I have as nearly* (*as I could, followed the* Precepts *of my* Master, *the* Lord Bacon, *and* (*by way of acknowledgement, from whom I received my first* light *into this* way) *have given my Book the Title of* BRITANNIA BACONICA

and the rather, because it will serve for a part of several Histories in his Lordships Catalogue, *at the end of his* Novum Organon. *I have not at all medled with matter of* Antiquity, Pedigrees, *or the like, those being copiously handled by several of our* Countreymen *already; as the learned* Camden *in his* Britannia, *Mr.* Dugdale *in his Description of* Warwickshire, *Mr.* King *in his* Vale Royal, *Mr.* Lambert *in his* Perambulation, *Mr.* Philpot *in his* Villare Cantianum, *and others. Only I ventured at the description of the* Caves in Wiltshire, *because I find mentioned by none of our* Antiquaries. *I have here and there attempted to give the Causes of the* Rarities *I relate, having the example of my Lord for my authority, who in his* Sylva Sylvarum *hath the like excursions ever and anon into the Ætiology. And though I cannot but confess, that such*

kind of writing is a little too bold yet to
before the Histories *of* Art *and* Nature *ar*
are compleatly done; yet posibly I may pa
in some, hit upon the true Reason by o
chance; and unless men were more forw
ward (then I see they are yet) in collecting
&ting such Histories, *these kinds of conie*
fidences must be dispensed with. Indeed ne
had those men that have spent so much ben
time & pains in writing voluminous op
Comments on Arist. *but labored as diligen*
gently in writing Cōments upon Nature ne
& (with that self denial and indifferen wh
cy, which becoms ingenuity in the dark
in trying to render a reason of such anies
such odd appearances in things, though it
some of them had been but false Positice
ons; doubtless the Philosophical part o n
Learning would have been at a much al
better pass, and Inquisition a great de ro
more happy and thriving then it is muc
this day. The pest of Learning is, that
men first fancy Opinions and Axi wola

et to themselves, and then by the help and
rt art of Distinguishing, wrest and fit
a particular Instances and Observations
b to them. And this was the first original
or of Distinctions in the Schools, they be-
lle ing meerly invented (like the Astrono-
on mers Hypotheses) to salve the Phæno-
ea mena of Aristotles oversights. And
uc hence likewise the impregnability of
ou Sophistry, which with its flanking di-
ili stinctions will repel the strongest argu-
ur ements, that would prove that snow is
en white.

rk There are many of the other Rari-
an ties, whose causes I could make bold
ng with, and purpose so to do, so soon as I
sit ceive the censure of the Learned,
t n what is already done; and as they
mu all encourage or discourage me, I shal
de roceed or desist. For though I have
is uch more to say, yet any good and
, thful advice shall perswade me to
mold my peace. I purpose also (if God

grant me life, health, and leisure, *to publish the* Philosophical Rarities of the World, *so far as they are communicated to us from* Geographers *and* Travellers, *having already made a considerable progress in the work. Which I believe will go a greater way in the* advancement *of* Learning, *then is yet imagined, and enable us to write* more confident Comments on Nature, and to draw up such *Articles* against her, as if she be examined upon them she will be forced to confess much more of her subtile wayes of cou senage, then *She* hath yet told u of.

I have endeavoured to tell my tale as plainly as might be, both that I might be understood of all, and that I might not disfigure the face of Truth by dawbing it over with the paint of Langu age. Renatus des Cartes *hath told us not without reaso, how hard it is either*

ell what we have seen, or what we have
eard, or to understand a related story
xactly, according to the Relatours
ence. So much difference there is be-
tween seeing and speaking, and between
earing and apprehending. And there-
fore in those Rarities which I have not
en my self, I have followed my Au-
hors close at the heels (word for word)
t may be (and I have cause to fear it)
with so much rigidness & nicety (with
some triviall things here and there) in
some places as will sound harsh and un-
grateful to the Readers ear: yet not
with more rigidness then for the reason
above given is necessary. For such ar-
ticles as we are to examine nature upon,
had need to be so punctually true, that
they cannot be too true If there be but
the least matter of doubt or uncertainty
them, she will easily evade them and
fool us. And I am perswaded that di-
vers of those relations I have given

you from the Authors I speak of, though they sincerely intended them for truth (and I have as sincerely translated and transcribed them) yet they are not truth to us by reason of our misunderstanding them: And that if the places and things themselves were visited, they would tell us as much, and appear different from what they are said to be. And peradventure by examining the particulars of them, we should find some one that would discover, or give a light into the cause of them; whereas some relations not being particular enough, leave us much unsatisfied, and make us think the causes of them much more strange and darke then they are. This I speak to provoke young Gentlemen to look and search into these pleasant Speculations more then heretofore they have done, and to visit each his neighbour curiosities, and to bestow upon the Manes of this Lord VERULAM that circum-

flanti

ſtantiall Hiſtory of them, that is requiſite for his great work, The interpretation of Nature.

That I have one or two reflections on Aſtrology, I hope the Reader wil pardon me. I may ſay with the learned *Clarencieux* that I have not been altogether unacquainted with thoſe vanities. I cannot but profeſs, that I have an affection for the ſtudy; & why I ſhould not have ſo, I know not. The onely argument that I know againſt the lawfulneſs of Aſtrology, is that it is not true. Were it rectified, it might eaſily be juſtified. Now that is partly my aim in thoſe reflections I mention: to lay a foundation for the rectifying it in the Doctrine of Aſcendents, and for redeeming it from that obloquy which it hath for ſo many ages of the world been obnoxious to. That there is ſuch a *Science* as Aſtrology,

there

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there

there is no queſtion to be made. The ſtars have an influence on us, and ſome ſmall matter touching this influence Aſtrology knows; yet no more, and of no more uſe, then to aſſure her that ſhe doth know ſomething of it. But her vanity is, ſhe promiſeth much more then ſhe is able to perform: and is led much more by fancy & plauſibilities, then ſound reaſon. I could wiſh, that to *Multa prædicuntur, quæ non eveniunt; multa eveniunt, quæ non prædicuntur*, ſhe had ſome other anſwer then *Pudet hæc opprobria nobis, &c.* And to let her know I wiſh it heartily, I ſhal make it part of my endeavour to furniſh her with an anſwer. There is much to be found out, if men did but well attend to obſervation, and doubt even the very Principles of Aſtrology, til they had examined the truth of them. For the

moſt important maximes in the Art are many of them ſhrewdly to bee ſuſpected, though there may be peradventure an inſtance or two alleadged to their advantage, wherein they have hit paſſing well: becauſe in Aſtrology (above moſt, if not all other pieces of learning) it is very eaſie to miſtake a *Non-cauſe* for a true cauſe: and a *Me ambulante corruit*, for a *Sol oritur, ergo dies eſt.* The way to go forward in this excellent Art, is to look back and compare the accidents of men and States, with the influences of heaven, and this wil not only try the truth of the old Principles, but adde new ones: ſuch (it is very likely) as the ſons of Art do not yet dream of. Which I have very great reaſon to ſay: and yet what that great reaſon is, I deſire at preſent to be excuſed from

from saying, because it cannot bee said without Ostentation.

I shall conclude my complements to the Reader with two requests; one, that he will not make any hast to pass the sentence of condemnation against me for setting down severall idle, empty, and useless things (as he may possibly imagine them to be) till he hath read the sixth Aphorisme of the Lord *Bacons Parasceue*; The other, that if his native County afford any other Rarity, then what is related in this Book, he will be pleased to communicate it for the sake of Learning, (For its possible, I have not made the Meshes of my net so narrow, but that some of the small fry of curiosities have escaped me,) And in particular, if he be of *Dorsetshire*, that he would bestow upon us a punctuall account of that raining of blood at *Pool* with all its circumstances. And so I remit him to the Book it self, wishing him that satisfaction from it, which he expects, and bidding him heartily

FAREWELL.

An

An occasionall Advertisement to the READER.

THe READER is desired to take notice, that while this Book was in the Press, on Thursday being All Saints day, *November* the first, 1660. between ten of the Clock that night, and five of the Clock the next morning happened an unusuall shifting of the Tides in the *Thames* at *London*, ebbing and flowing three times (as it is reported) in that space. Which how it agrees with the time of my conjecture (not to say prediction) *pag.* 97. of this Book, I shall leave him to judge.

Further, it happened upon a Northwesterly-wind, sometimes blowing pretty fresh, and sometimes remitting in a manner to a Calme (as my Diary of observations of the weather hath it for that day and night) and the Tides were at the Neapest; both which are according to my Hypothesis. Indeed

deed the Moon was not in Apogæo but almost in the very place of her Perigæum; Which makes me begin to think the Apogæosis is not altogether so necessary to concur in the business, but that the Neapness of the Tides and the wind are able to do it of themselves (assisted I mean with a private cause) so the alternate intensions and remissions of the wind bee but proportionably greater to supply the want of the Apogæosis. I know many will hardly believe that that sentence of my conjecture at the time of this supposed Prodigy came fairly into the Book, but that it was foisted in out of a design of the Authours to make himself talked of, (becaus it is the first prediction that was ever ventured at in this nature) But I can assure them he is not so light a regarder of his reputation, as to endanger it by a forgery easily to be detected. If this profession be not of power to perswade the Authours integrity, let doubters know, he can (if it be required of him) tell when the like prodigy will happen again; and give a pre-account of some other Prodigies shortly to come. But (as in duty bound) he confesses, that (*Secundum Deum*) he ows all this new knowledge to the Lord *Bacon*.

Some busie *Scriptorculi* may perhaps go about

about to amuse the people with strange matters portended in the State by this pretended wonder; and the rather because it happened but the night before *the arrivall of his Majesties Royall Mother at London*. And it is probable (to affright you the more) they will erect a figure for the beginning of it, and tell you that Saturn and Mars the two Malevolents with Sol and Mercury, are altogether in the fift house in Scorpio, the worst sign of the twelve, and the house of Mars; but that they hope Venus applying to a Conjunction of Jupiter in her own house in the 3 not far from an Angle, will much allay the venome of their influence. But I must tell them that this strange marvell, signifies nothing at all; and that whatever follows it, hath no relation to it. I believe had the thing fallen out about Midsummer last, the death of three English Dukes within less then three months space cou'd not but have been thought the correspondent of that presage: whereas now (it falling just after) we are to seek for a Portent to bewaile the imminence of so signall a mortality.

Britania Baconica:

Or, the Natural

RARITIES

OF

England, Scotland, & Wales,

ccording as they are to be found in every COUNTY, *&c.*

CORNWALL.

Devonshire and *Cornish*-men are more active in wrestling, and such boistrous exercises then other Shires in *England*; being also more brawny, stout, and able of body: As for instance, one *John* carried at his back at one time for the space But length, almost six Bushels of Wheaten l (reckoning fifteen Gallons to the Bushel)

and the Miller, (a Lubber of twenty four years of age) upon the whole. And one *John Romane* a thick short fellow, would carry the whole Carcase of an Ox. There was also one *Kilton* who lying in *Launceston* Castle-green upon his back, threw a stone of some pounds weight over the top of one of the high Towers of that Castle. Which stoutness and goodly stature of these people, *Cambden* reflecting on, makes this observation; That the Western people of most countreys are the tallest and stoutest. I know not whether it hold in all Countreys, but so much is true, that the *Chineses*, the Eastermost people of this Continent of the World, are the most effeminate and unwarlike in the World; for which we have not only the authority of *Mendez Pinto*, (who never told lye) but of many authentick Geographers. However I am rather induced to think, that it is the Rockiness of the County that gives the generality of the inhabitants these qualities: For it is as well observable, that rocky and mountainous places breed stout, hardy, warlike, and tall people, as we see by the *Highlanders* of *Scotland*, the *Switzers* and *Grisons*; low and flat Countreys rather dispossing the Natives to ingenuity, craft, invention and sedentary industry, as is manifest by the *Chineses* and the *Dutch*. And it may be the reason why the *Hollanders* are not altogether *Chineses* in stature, sloath, and cowardize, is because they inhabit the West side of a Continent:

The *Cornish* men are very healthful and long livers, eighty or ninety years of age is ordina-

in every place, and in most persons accompanied with an able use of the body and sences. One *Polzew* lived 130 years; a Kinsman of his 112. one *Beauchamp* 106. and one *Brawn* a beggar above 100. and in one Parish (in Qu. *Elizabeth's* time) there died in 14. Weeks space four people, whose years added together, made 340. And (to urge no more examples) one Mr. *Chamond* who lived at *Stratton* in this County, was Uncle and Great-Uncle to (at least) 300. The cause of this healthfulness I conceive to be also the rockiness and dryness of the Countrey, which though it be for the most part invironed with the sea, yet it hath few Marishes or Ouzy shores, but most sandy; and withall, the air is cleansed by often winds, lying so open to the sea: So that by reason of the purity of the air, the plague is seldom among them; and it was observed, that in *Anno* 1589. when our Fleet returned from the *Portugal* action, the Diseases which the Souldiers brought home with them, grew more grievous, as they carried them further into the Land, then it fell out at *Plymouth* where they landed; For there the Disease was though infectious, yet not so infectious; and though pestilential, yet not the Pestilence, as it after proved in other places. Yet the air of *Cornwall* is such, that it is apter to preserve, then recover health, especially in a stranger that is troubled with a lingering sickness.

There was within these hundred years, one Mr. *Alwel* Parson of St. *Tues* in *Cornwall*, who withall practised Physick; but so strange was his

Method (not to say his Humor) that though now and then he used blood-letting, and did administer commonly *Manus Christi*, and the like Cordials; yet for all Diseases he did chiefly prescribe Milk, and very often Milk and Apples; by which means he did very many strange and desperate cures, and maintained his Reputation unimpaired, so that he had many Patients from the neighboring Counties. But whether it were M. *Atwels* Physick, or the pure air of *Cornwall* that did the cures, is hard to say; or whether there may not be some peculiar Medicines appropriated by Nature to some particular Airs, as well as to some particular Diseases, and that that which will do in *Cornwall*, or the like air, will not elsewhere.

The Spring is later in *Cornwall*, then in the East parts of *England*; the Summer temperate, but Harvest late, especially in the middle of the Shire, where they seldom get in their Corn before *Michaelmas*. The Winter is milder then elsewhere; for the frost and snow come very seldom, and never stay long when they do come. But this Countrey is much subject to storms, lying (as I said) so open to the sea, so that the Hedges are pared, and their Trees dwarf-grown, and the hard stones and iron bars of Windows are fretted with the Weather. One kind of these storms they call a Flaw; (and so indeed in some Counties they call any violent storm of Wind) which is a mighty Gale of Wind, passing suddenly to the shore with great violence.

Cornwall

Cornwall is hilly, (one cause of the temperate heat of the Summer, and the lateness of the Harvest, even as its Maritime scituation is the cause of the gentleness of the Winter:) hilly I say, parted with short and narrow Valleys. The earth is but shallow, underneath which is rocks and shelfs, so that it is hard to be tilled, and apt to be parched by a dry summer.

The middle of the shire lieth open, the earth being of a blackish colour, and bears heath and spiry grass. There is but little Meadow-ground, but store of pasture for cattel and sheep, and plenty of Corn-ground.

They have a stone here, called *Moore-stone*, found upon Moores and wast grounds, which serves them instead of Free-stone, for Windows, Doors and Chimneys. It is white with certain glimmering sparkles: They have a stone digged out of the sea-cliffs, of the colour of grey Marble, and another stone black as Jett; and out of the Inland Quarries they dig Free-stone. Nor must we forget to tell you (speaking here of stones) that the sea here works the pebbles upon the shore, by the often rolling of the waves, to a kind of roundness.

They have a slate of three sorts, blew, sage-leaf-coloured, and gray, which last is the worst; and all these slates are commonly found under another kind of slate, that they wall with, when the depth hath brought the Workmen to the Water. They also make Lime of a kind of Marble stone, either by burning a great quantity together with Furze, or with stone-coal in smal-

ler Kills, which is the cheaper way; but the first Lime is the whiter.

For Metals, they find Copper in fund y places here, and the Ore is sometimes ship'd to be refined in *Wales*. And though *Cicero* will have none in *Britain*, yet silver hath been found in this shire in the time of *Edward* the first, and *Edward* the third, who reaped good profit by it. Nay, Tinners do find little quantities of Gold, and sometimes Silver among the Tin Ore, which they sell to the Gold-smiths. Also Diamonds are found in many places, cleaving to those Rocks out of which the Tin is digged: they are smooth, squared, and pointed by nature. Their quantity is from a Pease to a Wall-nut; but they are not so black and hard as the right ones. But the Metal which the Earth yields in greatest plenty, is Tin, in searching after which the Tinners do many times dig up whole and huge Timber-Trees, which they think were overthrown, and have lien buried in the earth ever since the flood. And they hold, that the Tin lay couched at the first before *Noahs* flood in certain strakes among the Rocks like a Tree from the depth whereof the main Load spreadeth out his branches till they approach the open air; but the Flood (say they) carried with the Rocks and Earth so much of the load, as was enclosed therein, and at the dryiug up of the flood, left the same scattered here and there in Valleys and Rivers where it passed; whence comes to pass, that they finde Tin sometimes upon the Moor-Lands. In their Tin-Works the

fin

find daily among the Rubbish, Pick-Axes of Holm, Box, and Harts-Horn, and sometimes they find certain little Tool-Heads of Brass; and there was once found a Brass Coyn of the Emperor *Dometians*, in one of the Works; an argument that the *Romans* wrought in these Tin-Works in times past. They discover the Tin-Mines by certain Tin-stones, which are somewhat round and smooth, lying on the ground, which they call shoad. But (if we will believe stories) there is another way to discover them very easie, and that is by dreams; for so it is reported, some have found Works of great value. As in *Edward* the sixt his time a Gentlewoman (heir to one *Tresculierd*) dreamed, that a handsome man told her, that in such a Tenement of her Land she should find so much Tin, as would enrich her self and her posterity. She told her husband of it, who upon trial found a Tin-work there, which in four years was worth to him almost 4000 pounds. It is said also, that one *Tapel* of the parish of S. *Niot*, by a dream of his daughters was wished to such a place, which he farmed of the Lord of the soil, and found a Tin-Work accordingly, which made him a rich man. On which stories we may bestow this observation; That if they be true, they make much for the credit of Womens Dreams. For the stories touching the success of Dreams, are not to be rejected altogether as Fables, till they be examined, and ventilated in their peculiar History, which is the 51. History in the L. *Veculams*

Catalogue being there called, *Historia Somni, & Insomniorum.*

From the bottom of the Tin-Works, if they be of any depth, you shall see the stars at noon-day, in clear Weather. And the like may be done from the bottom of deep Wells (as they say) or any other deep pits. Nor is it any wonder, the cause being so plain. It is reported that *Tycho Brahe* in his Isle of *Huena*, shewed K. *James* the stars in the day-time) at what time he went into *Denmark*) from out of a Cave cut a good way into the side of a Hill for the purpose.

If the load (as they call it) of the tin lye right down, the tinners follow it sometimes to the depth of 40. or 50. fathoms, and the deeper they sink, the greater they find the Load.

The labour of the tinners is so hard and tedious, that they cannot work above four hours in a day. And as they dig their load sloapwise under the ground, the air at length will not yeild them breathing, till they sink a shaft, (as they call it, that is a hole) perpendicular down to that place from the top, or surface of the Earth. And though (when they have so done) the light be just over their heads, yet is the P[illegible] still so dark, that they are fain to work most by Candle-light, of which the reason is plain enough. In their passage under ground, they meet sometimes with very loose Earth; sometimes with extreme hard Rock, (where though commonly they make speedyway through with their Pickaxes, yet now and then they light upon such an hard piece of Rock, that a good

Work

Work-man will scarce be able to hew above a foot in a Week) sometimes again they meet with great streams of Water; and sometimes with stinking damps that distemper their heads for the present; but there is no great danger in the consequence.

The Tin Stone being brought above ground out of the Work, is broken in pieces with hammers, and then stamped at a Mill into smaller pieces (and if the Stone be moist, it is dryed by the fire in an iron Cradle) and then it is ground to a fine sand. Then this sand being laid in water that runs over it, hath all the earth washed from it, and then it is called black tin, which is carried to the blowing house, where it is melted by a Charcole Fire, blown by a great pair of Bellows moved by a Water-wheel (the attenders on which bellows may be known from other men by their faces tanned and discoloured with smoke) and then it is coined. Further it is to be noted, that there is hard Tin and soft Tin; but the soft Tin is the more worth of the two: A foot of black Tin is in measure two Gallons; but the weight of it is uncertain, and is according to the goodness of it. A foot of good Moor Tin (which is held the best) will weigh about 80. pound: A foot of the Mine Tin (which is meaner) 52. pound: of the worst 50. pounds. Two pounds of good black Tin being melted, will yield one pound of white Tin. Tin also hath been made of that refuse that the Tinners formerly have rejected, and with good profit. And so much for the Tin-Works, and for Metals.

In

In some places on the coast of *Cornwall*, there are Pearls found that breed in big Oysters and Muskles, yet though they are great, they are not good, being neither round nor Orient. Here are also Agates and white Coral, as they say. *It may be this white Coral may be of the same kind with Isidis Plocamos, that grows about the Isle of Portland, of which more hereafter.*

About two miles Eastward from St. *Michaels* Mount at a low Water, they cast aside the sand on the shore, and dig up turfs that are full of Root of trees, and on some of these they have found Nuts, which seems to argue some inundation of the sea upon this shore: I have heard the like story of a place in *Scotland*: I shall not defend or impugne the truth of these stories, onely this is manifest in Nature, that the excluding of air from preying upon bodies, preserves them much longer from putrifaction.

In the West part of *Cornwall* there are Bents growing on sandy fields, which are knit from over the head in narrow breadths after a strange fashion, of which they make mats.

In this shire grows greater store of *Samphire* and *Sea-holly*, (whose Roots commonly called, *Eringo-Roots*, are a great restaurative and corroborative, being preserved in *Syrup*) then in any other part of *England*. Some of the gaullygrounds do also yield plenty of *Rosa Solis* (more properly called *Ros Solis*, a Plant that grows indeed in boggy and quagmiry grounds) Upon the Sea-cliffs in *Cornwall* grow wilde *Hyssope*, *Sage*, *Pelamountain*, *Majoram*, *Rosmary*, and other fragrant Herbs.

The

The Husbandmen in *Cornwall*, about *May*, cut up all the graſs of that ground, which they intend to break up and till, into turfs, which they call Beating; and raiſe theſe turfs ſo, that the ſun and wind may dry them the ſooner; and after they are throughly dryed, they pile them in little heaps, and burn them to aſhes. Then they bring in *Sea*-ſand; & a little before ploughing time, they ſcatter abroad thoſe aſhes, & the ſand heaps upon the ground, &plough it in, wch giveth heat to the root of the corn: This ſand makes the ground rich; and if they ſtrow it too thick, the ground will be too rank, and choak the Corn with weeds. When the ground is thus ſanded and ordered, the tiller can commonly take but two crops of wheat, and two of oats, and then is fain to give it at leaſt 7. or 8. years layer, or fallow, and to till elſewhere. But the inland Countrey requires not ſo much ſand as the places by the ſea ſide. The tillable fields are in ſome places ſo hilly, that the Oxen can hardly take ſure footing: in ſome places ſo tough, that the Plough can ſcarce cut them; and in ſome places ſo ſhelfy, that the Corn can hardly faſten its roots. They have two ſorts of wheat, *viz. French* wheat, which is bearded, and requires the beſt ſoil, and brings the beſt crop; and another wheat not bearded, which is ſown in the worſer Land, and yeildeth the leſs crop. In thoſe grounds that will bear no wheat, they ſow Rye; yet in the weſtern parts of *Cornwall* they ſow Barley in the parts near the ſea, which they carry to the Mill within eight or nine weeks after they ſowed it.

For

For fruits, they have a sort called *Whurts*, a
also *Chesnuts*, (but whether they ripen there, o
not, mine Author saith not) and *Grapes*. Fo
though the Countrey be bleak, yet Vines prof
per well, and their Grapes are pleasant of taste
as in most other *S*outhern parts of *England*.

*T*hey have little wood or timber, unless i
the East quarters of the *S*hire, where there ar
some *C*oppice woods. And hereabouts (saith
mine Author) the Countrey people have a fa-
ble that the *S*nakes by their breathing about a
hazle-wand, do make a stone-ring of blew co-
lour, in which there appeareth the yellow fi-
gure of a snake; and that Beasts which are stung
being given to drink some of the water wherein
this stone hath been soaked, will thereby reco-
ver.

It is observed, that strangers at their first co-
ming into *Cornwall*, are much visited with Lice
and yet the cleanly Natives find no such mat-
ter.

For Beasts, here are *Marternes*, *Badgers*, *Otters*,
(some of which, though they are all of the same
kind) live in the cliffs, and there breed, and feed
on sea-fish; and others live in the fresh Rivers,
which sometimes also feed on Lambs and Poul-
try; *Foxes* (who have their holes in abundance
in the steep cliffs by the sea side) *Goats*, *Rother*
Cattle, *Horses*, (but they are but small and low)
but there are no red Deer at all.

Their draught Oxen have each his Name,
which he knows when he is at work. When
Cornwall lay wast and open for want of manu-
ring,

ng, the sheep had generally little badies, and ourse wool, so that it was called *Cornish* hair; but nce it hath been manured, their sheepe re little inferior to the Eastern Flocks for big- ess, fineness of wool, often breeding, speedy tting and price, and besides are sweeter Mut- on, and freer from the rot. Most of the *Cornish* heep have no horns, and those that are so, have he finer wool, and those that are horned, have ndeed more in quantity, yet courser; yet in ome places of *Cornwall* the sheepe have four orns.

Cornish Cattel are but small.

For Birds and Fowl *Cornwall* hath these fol- owing, *viz. Woodcocks*, (in abundance) *Sparhawks* the most useless of *Hawks*, serving to flye little bove six weeks in the year, and that onely at he *Partridge*) *&c.* but there are no *Nightingales*, t least very few: A thing not to be wondred at y reason of the great scarcity of woods, (as I aid) the delight of that Bird: *Furzes* and *Broom* eing all that looks like woods in this countrey; of the former of which they have great, and of he latter good quantity.

In the West parts of *Cornwall*, during the win- er, swallows are found sitting in old deep Tin- works, and holes of the sea cliffs.

In Q. *Elizabeths* time a flock of Birds came nto *Cornwall* about Harvest, a little bigger then Sparrow, which had bils thwarted crosswise t the end, and with these they would cut an pple in two at one snap, eating onely the Ker- nels; and they made a great spoil among the ap-

ples.

ples. Theſe birds are common (ſaith mine Au-
thor) in *Glouceſterſhire* and other apple coun-
treys. The cauſe of theſe birds rambling ſo fa-
into *Cornwall* that year, was, I conceive, the fa-
ing of fruit in the fruit countreys, as in *Glou-*
ſterſhire, *Herefordſhire*, *Worceſterſhire*, *&c.* and
taking in *Cornwall* and ſome other parts. (For
know that it often happens, that fruit fails
one countrey, and takes in another) which o-
liged theſe birds to ſeeke for their peculiar foo
where it was to be had. We read in our Chron-
cles, that at the time when field Mice did
ſwarm in *Denge Hundred* in *Eſſex*, in the yea
1580. that they eat up all the roots of the gra-
&c. a great number of Owles, of ſtrange an-
various colours, aſſembled and devoured the
all; and after they had made an end of the
prey, they took their flight back again, fro-
whence they came. The reaſon of which I co-
jecture to be the ſame with the former. Fo-
that which produced theſe Mice in that great
bundance, was an extream dripping warm yea-
and a mild and moiſt winter, as countrey me-
aſſure us, & *Keppler* himſelf belives is the conſta-
cauſe of that Vermine. Now becauſe (thoug-
God can, yet) nature cannot extend the ſam-
extremity of weather all over the world; but (a-
is moſt probable) when there is an extremit-
of warmth and moiſture in one countrey, the-
is as great an extremity of cold and drought in
another (even as we ſee that the reaſon why
it flows in one Port, is becauſe it ebbs in ano-
ther; the reaſon, I ſay, or at leaſt the *cauſa ſine qu-*
non)

An) hence it follows, that the extremity of
our warmth and moisture that we had then in
England, could not have been without as great
an extremity of cold and drought in some o-
ther countreys, which (because an enemy to ge-
neration, especially to that of this Vermine)
made them fail most certainly in those other
countreys, whose Nature and temper is apt to
produce them more constantly and abundant-
ly, and (it may be) almost alwayes. Whence
these painted Owls (strangers to us, but not to
those countreys, where the abundance
and constancy of food makes them daily
guests) very likely were forced by hunger to
seek out food, which provident Nature had pro-
vided for them in other places, where their stay
was no longer then till they had spent their
provision, and then *ad pristina præsepia*. All which
these flying Pilgrims might very well do, with-
out any great notice how and whence they
came, and whither they went, because they are
birds of night, and travel onely in the dark:
And I conceive the reason of several birds leav-
ing us, and returning again at set times of the
year, to be much like this; either they find that
food that pleaseth them here among us at some
times of the year, which we have not for them
others; or (which is probable in some birds)
they delight in one certain degree of heat or
cold; and as they find the constant temper of
the season to grow hotter or colder, they accor-
dingly take their flight more Northernly or
Southerly; and if the winter prove very mild,

then

then the Winter birds (as *Fieldfares*, &c.) come not quite home to us, finding their due proportion of warmth in countreys more Northerly then we; and if the Winter prove extreme sharp, then they flye beyond us to the southward; yet taking our climate by the way, at the beginning of the sharp weather, they give a presage to countrey people of a hard Winter by their early appearing.

Every Hill almost in *Cornwall*, sendeth out a spring whose waters are pleasant and wholsom. That the springs should be so frequent in a barren countrey, I do not wonder; for where the vegetables are but few and small, to spend the stock of rain that falls, there must needs be the more left to soak into the earth, and make springs.

And that the waters of these springs (though strained through the Tin-Mines) should be also pleasant, wholesom, not Medicinal or purgative I conceive the cause may be for that Tin is a fat metal, and not apt to dissolve and communicate its self to the water, that passeth through it, as appears also by its slow rusting. Where iron, which is not so fast, but more apt to rust easily gives a Tincture to springs, (as appears by *Tunbridge* wells) and makes them medicinal.

For fishes, they have these kinds, *viz.* the *Shoate* (a fish proper to *Devonshire* and *Cornwall*; it is like *Trout*, but lesser, and nothing near so good as *Trout*) *Peale*, *Trout*, and *Salmon*, (which breed in fresh water, and live in salt.) The *Trout* & *Peale* come from the sea between *March* & *Midsummer* in

into the rivers to shed their Spawn. The *Salmons* chief coming is between *Michaelmas* and *Christmas*; for till then the rivers are too shallow for them. The *Salmons* are fattest when they come first from the *Sea*: they pass up as high as any water can carry them to Spawn the more safely, and to that end take advantage of the great rain floods. And after *Christmas* they return to the sea, and as the spring comes on, the young fry follow; and it hath been observed, that the *Salmon*, *Trout*, and *Peale* haunt the same rivers where they first were bred. The nature of the *Salmon* is, that if in the night he see any light, as of a Candle, or of Lightning, he will come to the top of the water, and play in and out. The *Cornish*-men use to take *Salmons* and *Trouts* by tickling them under the bellies, and so throwing them on the land, *Sharkes* (in the rivers) *Lobsters*, *Crabbs*, (many of the *Crabbs* breeding in *Cockle-shells*, and many of the *Lobsters* in *Wrinckle-shells* (as my selfe have seen, saith mine Author) and being grown they come forth, and live in holes of rocks, from thence at low water they are dragged out by a long crook of Iron.) *Oysters*) of which they hold that there are male & female *Oysters* the female *Oysters* about *May* or *June* have in them a milk, which they call shed and whereof the *Oyster* is ingendred; the little ones at first cleave in great numbers to the others shel, & waxing bigger toward *Michaelmas*, they fall away, and fall asunder one from another: only here and there some are fast knit together (two, three, or more in a cluster) that nothing but violence will severe them. Some people have

a conceit, that in Summer they are all ſick, (a
if the males did breed their wives children) and ou
of ſeaſon; as indeed the milky are. But ſom
Gentlemen (ſaith M. *Carew*) have found the con
trary by experience, eating of them at all time
of the year without danger. *Oyſters* have this pro
perty, that though taken out of the water, the
open againſt the flood time, and cloſe upon t
ebbe. Yet they will cloſe before; if they chan
to be touched; whence it once hapned (ſaith th
ſame Gentleman) that an *Oyſter* lying open d
by his ſudden ſhutting catch three young mi
by the heads, that were going to eat him.) So
and *Playce* (both which follow the tide into t
freſh rivers) *Eels* (ſome whereof are bred in fre
water, and are of the beſt taſt. The great ra
floods after *September* break their beds, where th
breed, and carry them into the Sea; the oth
Eeles called *Conger-Eeles* are bred in Salt wat
and when they are grown a little, they go in
the Ocean.) *Porcpiſce* and *Seale* (the *Porcpiſce*
very big fiſh, and black: they chaſe the ſmal
fiſh from the Sea into the rivers, leaping up
down the water, one after another; puffing
a fat Lubber out of breath, and ſo follow th
chaſe as far as any water will carry them, wh
the fiſhermen obſerving get below them w
their Boats, and caſt a ſtrong net croſs the ſtre
with which and their loud and continuall ſho
ing they fray them from retiring, till
ebbe hath left them, and then they take them.
Seal-fiſh is like a Pig, ugly faced, and footed
a *Moldwarp*: he loves muſick, or any loud no

and after the noiſe wil come a ſhore, almoſt above water, and ſometime many of them will come a ſhore, and lye ſleeping in holes of the cliffe, where they kill them with Guns. *Seale* and *Porcpiſce* uſe to be cut in pieces, and powdered, and it ſeems being ſo ordered, they are eatable) *Scallops*; *Sea-hedgehogs* (both which are found on the Sea coaſts. The *Sea-hedgehog* is reſtaurative, being encloſed in a round ſhell like a loaf of bread, handſomely wrought and pinked, and guarded with prickles) the *Sheathfiſh* (which is alſo found upon the coaſt: it is as big, and as long as a mans finger, and taſtes like a Lobſter, but is more reſtaurative) *Pilchards* (the *Pilchard* is a little fiſh, and a great multiplier, he comes up into the freſh water between Harveſt and *Allhollandtide* purſuing into the rivers a fiſh called a *Britt*, upon which hee feeds. He is alſo himſelf a prey to a bigger kind of fiſh, called a *Pluſher*, which is like a Dog-fiſh, and leaps up now and then above water. Other fiſh likewiſe prey upon the *Pilchards*, as the *Tonny* fiſh, the *Hake* (a fiſh ſo called) as alſo a kind of bird called a *Gannett*) the *Starfiſh* (which is held to be contagious, but whether it be that fiſh which in *Kent* the fiſhermen call 5 fingers, and why fingers I know not.) *Tonny* and *Turbot* (which they uſe to boil, and preſerve freſh in Vinegar) &c.

On the North ſide of *Cornwall*, and to the Weſtward of *Foy*, few or no *Salmons* are taken. The cauſe whereof I think is, becauſe there both the Seas are too unquiet for them, as commonly they are about *Promontories*, and the mouths of

swift rivers, such as Seavern; and becaufe there are no rivers of any competent bigneſs thereabout, fit for them to ſpawn in.

There ſwims in the Sea upon this coaſt a round ſlimy ſubſtance, called a Blobber, which is thought to be noiſome and hurtfull to the fiſh (which I ſuppoſe is that that is very frequent in the river of Medway by *Rocheſter*, and called there a Water-gall.)

For Sea fowl, they have theſe following, *viz.* *Gulls*, *Pewets*, and other Sea fowls, (which breed in little Iſlands, laying their eggs in the graſs, and not building any nefts; and they have young ones about *Whitſuntide*. And here mine Author relates, that an old *Gull*, was known for many years together to come, and feed young *Gulls* kept tame in a Gentlemans yard joining to his houſe that bordered upon a cliff of the Sea.) *Puffins* (a fowle which hatcheth in holes of the Sea cliffs, and whoſe fleſh taſteth like fiſh) *Burranet* (a fowle that hatcheth alſo in holes of the Sea cliffs, and when her young ones are hatched, ſhe leads them ſometimes a mile or better into the land, where they are ordinarily taken and kept tame with Ducks.

There are alſo *Sprayes* here, the ſame fowle, that *Pliny* calls *Haliaetos*, but it is not eatable.

The *Chough* is a peculiar bird to this County being found no where elſe in *England*; it haunts the Seas, but feeds not upon fiſh. His bill is ſharp, long and red, his leggs red, and his feathers black. It is a very unlucky bird (and miſchievous like the Pye) for he will hide money

and other little things, and will carry ſticks of fire about, and ſet barns, ſtacks, &c. on fire. He is frequent about the Alpes.

There are many Lepers in *Cornwall*, who are thought to contract that diſeaſe from much eating of fiſh, eſpecially newly taken, and more eſpecially from the eating of the Livers of ſuch new fiſh; but ſome have it as an heriditary diſeaſe from their Anceſtors.

The ancient *Corniſh* men were excellent archers, they would ſhoot an arrow 24 ſcore: their Arrow was a Cloath yard long, wherewith they would pierce any ordinary Armour: One Mr. *Robert Arundel* would ſhoot 12. ſcore with his right hand, with his left hand, and behind his head; and one *Robert Bone* ſhot at a little Bird upon a Sheaves back, and killed the Bird without touching the Cow.

In *Cornwall* they find that ſea ſand is more fruitifying and enriching then land-ſand, by reaſon of the ſaltneſs, as they think. And they further obſerve, that the Sand is the better, by how much the farther down in the ſea it lyes. They uſe alſo ouzymud to lay upon their land, but it is not altogether ſo good as the Sand. There is alſo a weed called *Orewood*, whereof ſome grows upon Rocks under low-water mark, and ſome is broken from the bottom of the ſea by rough weather, and caſt upon the next ſhore by the wind and flood; and with theſe Weeds they compaſt their Barley Land. This (and ting *Orewood* that is caſt a-ſhore by the flood, now and then found naturally formed like ruffs and Combs.

Upon the shore of this County, in many places are found shells of sundry fashions and colours (as indeed there are upon many shores elsewhere) and in some places on the shore there are Nuts to be found like a sheeps kidney, but flatter with a hard browniſh rind, and the kernell without taſte, and (as they say) good for Wo men in travell.

Edgecomb house by *Plymouth* is a very healthf dwelling, though near the Sea: *The cause is, cause it is hilly, rocky, and free from marish For which reason the Country about Dover Kent is found to be healthfull too, though lyi first upon the Sea.* This house is famous for t things; first for the brave Eccho about and then for a sort of Stone, that they near it, which serves for building, lime, a marle, and all.

Some Gentl men in this Country have their delight Salt-water pond, into which if cast boughes of trees, *Oysters* will grow u them.

At *Trematon* in *Cornwall* in the Parish Ch cell, a Leaden Coffin was digged up, in w being opened was found the proportion very big mans body, but being touche turned to dust. It was thought to be the of Duke *Orgarus*, who, as *Speed* saith, ma his daughter to King *Edgar*: for there w inscription on the Coffin, that signified, it the body of a Duke, whose heir was married Prince.

Saltash is a very healthfull place; In this

here is a Well, the water of which will never oile peason to an eatable softness.

On *Hengsten*-down a little above *Plimouth* are reat store of *Cornish* Diamonds. The people bout this Country observe, that when *Hengsten* op is capped with a cloud, a shower followeth on after.

The Country men in *Cornwall* are great aters of Garlick for healths sake, whence ey call it there, the Country mans Trea-e.

The cement or morter of the walls of *Vinto-ell* Castle resist the fierceness of the weather bet-r then the stones.

The Town of *Bodmin* is held a very unhealth-ll place, and the cause of it they say is, for that hath one street (a mile in length) running ue East and West, on the South side whereof it ath a great high hill that hides the Sun from ; and their Back-houses, as Kitchins, Stables, c. are climbed up to by steps and every reat shower washeth the Sulledge of them rough the houses into the streets; and (which more) their Conduit water runs through e Church yard.

It will not be amiss to add here out of our Au-our an odde presage of the *Cornish* rebellion in e time of *Edward* the sixth, which happened in is Town of *Bodmin*. About a year before that ebellion the Scholars of *Bodmin* School grew into o factions, the one (as they call it) for the old lig on, the other for the new; and this quar-ll was prosecuted with some eagerness sun-

dry times, till by an unhappy accident (no other then the killing of a Calfe during the beardleſs conflict) complaint was made to the Maſter, and ſo the play ended. Which preſage is ſeconded with ſeverall others of the like nature out of ancient & modern hiſtory; but to impertinent to our deſign and too tedious to be here related.

In Saint *Cleeres* pariſh in *Cornwall*, there are upon a plain ſix or eight Stones, ſuch as are upon *Salsbury* plain, which like them two vvill be miſtaken in the telling; ſo that vvhen they are told over again, they will be found over or under the firſt number. A thing, that happens (no doubt) meerly by their confuſed ſtanding.

There is a ſtory that paſſes concerning Saint *Kaines* well in this County; vvhich is, that vvhoſoever drinks firſt of the vvater, be it husband or vvife, gets the maſtery. A fit fable for the vulgar to believe.

At *Hall* near *Foy* there is a Fagot vvhich is all one piece of vvood, naturally grovvn ſo, and it is vvrapped about the middle vvith a bond, and parted at ends into four ſticks, one of which ſticks is ſubdivided into two others. It was carefully preſerved (and painted over, that it might keep the better) for many years by the Earl of *Devon*, being reckoned a fore-token of his progeny. For his Eſtate (ſaith Mr. *C.*) is now come into the hands of four *Corniſh* Gentlemen, one of whoſe Eſtates is likewiſe divided between two Heirs.

An Earthen Pot was found many years ago near *Foy*, gilded and graved with Letters, in a great Stone

Stone Cheſt, and full of a black Earth ; the Aſhes ('tis like) of ſome ancient *Roman*.

In *Lanhadron* Park there grows an Oake that bears Leaves ſpeckled with white; and ſo doth another called *Painters Oak*, in the Hundred of *Eaſt*. It is certain (ſaith our Author) that divers ancient Families in *England*, are pre-admoniſhed of their end by Oaks bearing of ſtrange leaves.

There are two Lakes not far aſunder, nor far from St. *Agnes* Hil in this ſhire, whereof the one wil live and Fiſh thrive in, but not in the other.

By *Helford* is a great Rock lying upon the ground, and the top of it is hollow like the long half of an Egg This they ſay holdeth water, which ebbeth and floweth with the Sea. And indeed (ſaith Mr. *C.*) when I came hither to ſee this curioſity, the Tide was half gone, and the Pit or hollowneſs half empty.

There is a Rock in this ſhire called *Mainamber*, which is a very great one, and yet ſo laid upon leſſer Rocks, that the puſh of a finger will ſenſibly move it to and fro ; but not all the ſtrength which men can make, can remove it from the place.

The Cliffs to the Weſtward of St. *Jes* in *Cornwall*, have ſtreaks of a glittering colour, like Copper, which ſhew as if there were a likelihood of finding Copper there.

An exceeding big Carcaſs of a man was found by Tinners digging at a Village near the Lands end, called *Trebegean*. Hitherto I have borrowed all I have written (ſave onely my conjectures at the cauſes) out of Mr. *Carew's* ingenious Book, called, *The Survey of Cornwall*, publiſhed in the year 1602.

What

What *Cambden* and others ſay over and above, is as followeth.

The chief time of the ſwarming (as one would ſay) of *Pilchards* about the ſhores of *Cornwall*, is from *July* to *November*, at which time they are taken, garbaged, ſalted, and hanged in the ſmoak, laid up and preſſed, and ſo carryed away, and ſold in *France* and other Countreys.

In the Rocks at the Lands end, at a low Water, are found Veins of white Lead, and braſs.

At St. *Michael's* Mount, at low ebbs, one may ſee Roots of mighty Trees in the Sands, which ſhews that there hath been overflowing of the ſea upon this coaſt hereabout, as it appeareth alſo to have been about *Plymouth* Haven, and other places adjoyning. And it is manifeſt that the ſea hath devoured much Land upon the coaſt of *Cornwall*, towards *Silley* Iſlands. For between the Lands end and *Silley*, the ſea is all of an equal depth of about 40. or 60. fathom, Water being about 30 Miles in length; onely in the mid way there lyes a Rock called the Gulf. The cauſe of the devouring of this Land by the ſea, I conceive to be its being a Promontory lying open to the mercileſs ſtormes and weather, and withall, lying in a place where two currents meet and part; I mean the Tide as it comes in, and returns out of the Sleeve, or narrow Seas, and the *Iriſh* Seas, and *Seavern*; the rolling and force of the Sea being apt to carry before it all that ſtands in its way, according to the proportion that its own ſtrength bears to the yeeldingneſs of the object. But the cauſe why the Gulf rock was not waſhed away with the reſt, is becauſe it

t was of too ſtubborn a matter, and too faſt founded in the Earth. Nor can I think but that the *Silly* Iſlands were once all parts of the main Land of *England*, (and the like I conceive of *Heyſant* in *France*, an Iſle lying before the Promontory of *Britain*) but ſevered by degrees each from other, and all from the Continent by the means abovementioned.

At *Stratton* in *Cornwall* grows the beſt Garlick in all the Countrey. It may be old Mr. *Chamond* (before ſpoken of) owed part of the cauſe of his great age, to his living ſo near the beſt Garlick the Countrey man's Treacle.

On the ſhore of this ſhire, about 30. or 40. years, ago, was a huge Maſs of Ambergriſe, found by a poor Fiſherman; a ſtory very famous, and frequent in the mouths of ſeveral perſons of credit and quality.

DEVON-

DEVONSHIRE.

THE west of this Shire (being that which borders upon *Cornwall*) is stored with Tin Mines. The River *Lid* by *Lidford* runs under ground. At *Combmarton* are found Mines of Lead, and some Veins of Silver.

Ordulphus (this Countrey man, for he was Son of *Ordarus*, E. of *Devonshire*) was a Giant-like man, that (if *William* of *Malmesbury* say true) would break open the bars of Gates, and stride 10. foot. 'Tis probable he was one of somewhat a larger proportion then ordinary (and so might give a fair occasion for the *Hyperbole*) and that the brawniness and big-bodiedness of the *Cornish* men may extend to their neighbours of *Devonshire*.

The air of *Devonshire* is sharp and wholesom: the soil hilly and woody; and here they use (as in *Cornwall*) sea-sand to mend and enrich their Land, which makes it very fat and battle.

Devonshire abounds with Wool, Kersies, Seafish, and Sea-fowl.

Load-stones have been found upon *Dartmore* Rocks, of good value and vertue.

Upon *Exmore* are such stones, (huge, and placed confusedly) as are upon *Salisbury* Plain; and one of them hath *Danish* Letters upon it, directing passengers that way.

At

At *Hubblestow* in this shire, was a battel fought the *Danes*, where their Banner called *Reafan*, which they reposed confidencce of Victory and ccess, was notwithstanding taken, and *Hubba* eir Captain slain.

It is reported by several persons of credit, that ring the late War, at the time that *Exceter* was ieged by the Parliaments forces, an infinite mber of Larks came flying into the Town, and ttled in a void green place within the Walls, here they were killed by the besieged in huge antities, and eaten.

DORSETSHIRE.

THE Air of this Shire is healthful, and the Sea yeildeth the shrub called *Isidis Plocamos*, owing without leaves, like Coral; When it is cut, waxeth hard and black, and is brittle. It grow-th among that useless Sea-Weed, called *Algæ*, nd is most plentiful about the Isle of *Portland*.

About *Birtport*, or *Burport*, grows the best Hemp n these parts of *England*.

The River of *Sture* affordeth great store of *Tench* and *Eeles*: Probably 'tis a muddy River.

Alume and *Coperas* is made at *Canford* in this hire; the reason I suppose is because the shores of he Sea (not far from it) may afford *Copperas* stones or the purpose, in good quantity.

At

At *Shaftsbury* (as say some of our Historians) lived in times past one *Aquila* (which yet some have to be the Bird of that name) who prophesied, that the *Brittish* Empire after the *Saxons* and *Normans* would return to the old *Britans*. There was never any age of the World, but it afforded a Prophet for a pleasing improbability; and the greater or more pleasing the improbability, the more the Prophets.

At *Pool* in the year 1653. *June* 20. it is reported, that it rained warm blood. The particulars of which would be well worth the while to enquire after, because *Peiresk'us*, the noble *French* Philosopher, contends, that that blood falls not out of the air, but is a superfluous matter remaining after the hatching of a Butter-flye, and left in such places sometimes, where no rain can come to drop. It were easie to enquire the true particulars of it, being so late a prodigy. I once had a conceit (but I had no reason to cherish it long) that this Blood might be engendered of some Vapour drawn up by the *Sun* from that part of the Sea where the cruel Sea-fight was fought between the *English* and *Dutch*, not far from this Town, and not long before this time; as if the crimson'd Sea had afforded a Crimson Vapour to make this rain of. But this is not the first plausible error that have had. Query, whether about *Pool*, and in the Isle of *Wight*, and other places in *England*, where our Histories tell us it hath rained blood, there be not generally greater store of Butterflies and Grashoppers then elsewhere.

In the Haven of this Town of *Pool*, the ſea con-
ry to all other Ports in *England*) ebbs and flows
ike another *Euripus*) four times in 24. hours; for
ſt it flows a S.E. and N.W. *Moon*, and then a
uth and by Eaſt, and a North and by Weſt Moon
ce more, vvhich ſecond floud is cauſed (as *Sea-*
en conceive) by the return of the fore-ebb,
hich coming from the *Suſſex* Coaſt, and ſo a-
ng betvveen the Iſle of *Wight*, and the main
nd of *Hantſhire*, ſtrikes in here, as lying in its
way. *Note that* Euripus in *Eubaa*, *is ſcituated al-*
moſt like Pool.

At *Hermitage* in *Dorſetſhire* (it lyes, I think in
he vail of *White Hart*) in the year 1582. & 3. *Ja-*
nuary the 13. being *Sunday*, a piece of ground of
hree Acres, removed from its old place (ſaith *Stow*
n his *Summary*) and vvas carryed over another
loſe vvhere Alders and Willows grew, the ſpace
f 40. Rods or Perches, and ſtopt up the High-
Way that led to *Cerne* (a Market Tovvn) and yet
he Hedges that it vvas encloſed vvith, encloſe it
ſtill, and the Trees ſtand bolt upright; and the
lace vvhere this ground vvas before, is left like a
reat pit.

The *Portland* men (like the ancient Inhabitants
of the *Baleares'* Iſles in the *Mediteranean* Sea) are
excellent ſlingers.

In the Iſles of *Purbeck* are Veins of Marble run-
ning under the earth.

SOMER-

SOMERSETSHIRE.

IN this Shire the Air is mild, and the soil generally very wet, miry, and moorish.

Of the hot Baths in this Shire (at the City of *Bath*) *Johnson* in his *Mercurius Botanicus*, gives us this description. *Bath* (saith he) lyes in a plain (not great) encompassed with Mountains almost of an equal height. The Baths are four, the *King's Bath*, the *Queen's Bath*, the *Croß Bath*, and the *Hot Bath*: The *King's Bath* lyes in the middle of the City, being about 60. feet square, and it hath about the middle of it many hot Springs rising, whence it hath the greater heat. The *Queen's Bath* hath no Spring in it, but only receives the Water from the *King's Bath* (from which it is onely divided by a Wall) for which reason it is more temperate then the Kings. In these two Baths there is a Pump to pump Water upon the diseased, where strong Embrocations (as Phisicians speak) are required; for oftentimes the matter of the Disease is so contumacious, that simple bathing wil not remove it. The *Croß Bath* and *Hot Bath* are in the West part of the City. The *Croß Bath* is Triangular, and about 25. foot long, and as broad at one end. It hath not so many Springs as the Kings Bath, and hot bath have; and therefore is of a more gentle

gentle heat. About 22. paces from the *Cross Bath*, is the *Hot Bath*, so called, because formerly when it was not so large as now it is, it was much hotter then the rest. But now it is only as hot as the *King's Bath*, or but little hotter. It is 27. foot long, & 13. foot broad. The Water of all these *Baths* in a small quantity seems clear and pellucid; but if one look upon its surface in the *Bath*, it looks somewhat green, (or of a blew or sea-colour, as *Cambden* saith) and it hath a *Bituminous* unsavoury smell, but almost no tast, at last it is hardly perceivable to the palate. Once a week the *Baths* are empited, and swept clean; namely the *Cross Bath*, because of its frequent use and its narrowness, is sometimes cleansed twice a week. For the nature of the water is, that about 4. or 5. hours after the going out of the *Baths*, the water casts out a foamy scum or filth which swims on the top of it, and fouls it. The Minerals that are conceived by learned Writers to give these Waters their heat and Tincture, are *Bitumen*, *Sulphur*, and *Nitre*; and there is *Bitumen*, *Sulphur* and *Nitre* being in less quantity: The Mineralness of these Waters appears also by a way that the people of *Bath* have to give Silver Money a Golden colour, which is done with a Composition made (as they say) of the Mud of the *Bath*, and some of the *Bath*-Water and Urine mixed together, with which composition they rub the Money which they intend to gild; but the colour is but pale and faint, and will quickly wear off. Now that it is a *Bituminous* and *Sulphury* matter that gives this Water its

heat and tincture: besides its Medicinal Vertues as that it dryes, heats, dissolves, softens, opens attracts, digests, cuts, and is absterstive, &c. ther is this manifest proof, that the Countrey hereabouts is full of Cole-Mines, especially about *Bristol*, and the southermost parts of *Glocestershire*, as *Mengerfield*, *Westerley*, &c. and so also under *Mendip-Hills*, that part of them that lyes towards *Frome-Selwood*. And all *Naturallists* agree (as they have reason) that *Coale* is a *Bituminous* and *sulphury* matter; For that it is a *Bitumen*, is manifest by its black pitchy viscosity, and its melting as it burns: And that there is quantity of *Sulphur* in it, is as evident by the Brimstony smell the Embers of them give, as any one may find that will but hold his head while over a pan of them; as also by their burning blew many times, especially when they burn eagerly, as in frosty Weather; whence many people reckon the fires burning blew, a sign of frost and hard weather: And (which is a further argument, the Coale hereabouts has abundance of Veins like Gold or Brass in it (I have often observed my self, and it may be observed every day; for indeed there is nothing more common) a thing which I could never observe in *New-Castle* Coal, though this Cake that doth, and doth not burn all away to white ashes, as the Coale which they dig about *Staffordshire*, and which I think they call *Cannel Coale*.

There are (saith *Cambden*) a kind of pit-coal digged near the River *Frome*, with which *Smi*

use to soften Iron. These are the Coales I mentioned before, under *Mendip Hills*, toward *Frome-Selwood*: That they should soften Iron, is no wonder, since we see any Coal, or the like violent fire doth the same; but whether they have a singular power thatway above other coal, may be further enquired.

It is reported that about *Uphill* (Parish by the sea-side not far from *Axbridge*) within these half hundred years, a parcel of Land swelled up like a hil, and on a sudden clave asunder, and fel down again into the Earth, and in the place of it remains a great Pool.

At *Keinsham* in stone quarries, are found stones in the form of a Serpent, like the *Whitbay* stones (of which I shal speak more in *York shire*) onely here is the difference between them; whereas those at *Whitbay* want heads, some of these have. Hereabours also (saith *Cambden*) grows *Percepier*, or *Parsley-break stone*, an Herb proper to *England*, bitter, hot, biting and sowre, without stalk, with herby Flowers, never above a span high: It grows naturally all the yeer long; it is extremely dieuretical, and very quick in operation, Yet however *Cambden* puts it down as a special rarity in this place; our modern *Herbarists* make no such rarity of it; for *Mercurius Botanicus* saith indefinitely, that it grows *in Agris Siccioribus*, that is, in dry grounds; and others say that it is commonly to be found in airable fields after Harvest.

At *Bristol* it flows a 11. or 12. Ells in height every Tide; an extraordinary proportion in

compariſon of moſt places on the *Engliſh* ſhore. The cauſe I ſuppoſe is, the extreme wide and direct mouth of *Severn*, lying open to the Vaſt *Atlantick Sea*, where the Tide comes rolling in a-main, and being contracted as it comes in higher into the River, and land-locked, and not being able to fall back again (til it ebb without in the Main) by reaſon of the continual ſucceſſion of Water, muſt needs ſwel to that height in the *Severn*, and by conſequence very eaſily communicate part of his burden to the *Avon* of *Briſtol*.

Not far from *Briſtol* is the famous Rock called St. *Vincents* Rocks, ragged, and hanging over the bank of the River of *Avon*, where (ſaith *Johnſon*) is a Well of warm Water, pleaſing to the taſt. It flows out of the Cleft of a great Rock, & is overflowed every Tide, and left open to the air at the ebb; for its ſpring breaks out at the Root of the Rocks; the Water is much commended for *Ulcers*, and calculous affections of the reins, being taken inwardly. It is alſo often applied outwardly to cure old ſores with very good ſucceſs (ſaith he) as I have heard thoſe ſay that have tried. There is moreover in this place a Vein of Iron in the Bowels of the Earth (ſaith the ſame Author) whence the water gets its vertue, and a greater heat, which it loſeth by running a great way before it can get out. But by my Authors leave, it cannot be conceived how a vein of Iron ſhould make water ſo hot, ſince we ſee that iron Mines in other places work no ſuch effect upon thoſe Waters that run

run through them. I rather conceive there it is some other Vein of Metal, or rather Mineral there, that is the cause of the heat, and likely the same Mineral that causeth the heat of the *Bath-Waters*. Much more I could say, but I am unwilling to inlarge too far upon Plausibilities. Note that this hot Well is not above 12. miles from *Bath*.

On the upper side of these craggy Rocks of St. *Vincent*, are digged out pellucid stones, sexangular (or six cornered) and quadrangular, (or four cornered) which we call *Diamonds*. Some will have them to be Chrystal, but (saith Mr. *Johnson*) I think they are rather of the nature of *Fluores*. For (saith he) I remember an Apothecary of *Bristol* told me, the Lord of the place would not have them taken out of the Iron Mine, (which was the womb in which they were formed) because the greater quantity of them make the Metal the more fluid, and apt to melt. And *Agricola* tells us, that *Fluores* are very like *Diamonds*, but not so hard, and that they are used in the melting and trying of Metals, till they be throughly tried; for (saith he) they make the matter in the fire much more fluid. And *Kentmannus* in his Catalogue of *Fossils*, reckons *Pellucid Fluores*, sexangular, and like Crystal. Of these St. *Vincent Stones*, *Cambden* speaks thus: They are (saith he) so plentiful there, that one may fill a bushel with them; and they are all either four cornered, or six cornered. And saith *Speed*, saving their hardness, they are as good as the *Diamonds* of *India*.

On

On another Rock more Western then St. *Vincents* Rock, there are found *Diamonds* enclosed in hollow and reddish Flints after a wonderful maner, and the Earth it self is red there too.

At *Chedder* near *Axbridge*, is a *S*pring so plentiful of Water presently, that it drives twelve Mills within a quarrer of a mile of the head of it. The reason I suppose is, for that the head of it ariseth in a corner, been encompassed round with steep barren hills, (save onely that way which the stream runs) which pour out all that plenty of Water they contain in their bowels, into this head-spring, where it all meets as in a center, and there rusheth forth in a vast abundance.

In the Isle of *Athelney* in this shire, was in ancient time a Monastry, which was so contrived, that the whole Frame thereof hanged upon four main Posts made fast in the ground. So saith *Cambden* out of *William* of *Malmesbury*.

It is credibly reported (saith the same Author *Cambden*) that there was a Walnut-Tree in the holy Church-yard at *Glastenbury*, that did never put out leaf before St. *Barnabas* day, and upon that very day was very rank & full of leaves; but that is now gone, and a young Tree set in this place. Also that there is Hawthorn in *Wirall* Park hard by *Glastenbury*, that upon *Christmas* day sprouteth forth as if it were in *May*. This is reported (saith he) by very credible men that live thereabouts. *But it is since (as credibly reported) that themalice and fury of the late wars, hath destroyed this Hawthorn too.*

There

There is at *Bristow* a Church, called the Temple, the Tower whereof shakes to and fro when the bells ring, so that it hath divided it self from the rest of the Building from the top to the bottom the breadth of three Fingers, and openeth and shutteth whensoever the bell is rung.

There is about a mile Eastward from *Bath*, a great hill, and on the top of it a very large barren Plain, called *Landsdown*, under which very probably, if search were made, would be found the Mineral or Furnace that heats the *Bath-Water*; but no doubt it lies so deep, that it would not be worth the time, the pains, or the cost to search after it; it seems by the very sight of it to be pregnant of some such matter. *These were my thoughts at first, touching the Bed of the Minerall that heats the Bath; but Dr.* Meara *of* Bristow *hath since taught me to lay down that conjecture, by shewing me the Copy of a Letter written by himself in Latine to Dr.* Pruean *of* London, *touching a strange thing that happened in* July 1659. *at the Bath: the abstract of which I shall take the boldness to give the Reader in the Doctors own words, as followeth.*

Aquis Calidis, 4° nonas Aug. 659

Amplissimo & Excellentissimo D. D.
F. Prujean, Medicinæ Doctori, &c.

Ampl. & Excel. Domine.

Quod jamdudum factum oportuit, &c. hostiam autem adfero tibi; ut auguror, non ingratam fortuitam scilicit detectionem Zetematis non ignobilis de causa Caloris Thermarum huius loci, cuius investigatio clarissimos medicos diu exercuit. Illustrissimus D. Fairfax *qui cum Coniuge Valetudinari jam Aquis Calidis hæret, cum nudiustertius apricandi causa non procul ab urbe obequitaret, casu offendit cretam quandam nivei candoris sparsime terrâ in exiguis cumulis emergentem ad instar terræ à talpis egestæ. Huius Portionem domum attulit mihiq; ostendit. Friabilis est, spontè fercè in scobem levissimam abit; saporem exhibet manifestè acidum sine astrictione; sed paulatim mordicat, ac inflammatoriam strangulationem in faucibus parit, ut non dubitem illam multo chalcantho abundare, nec esse omnino Arsenici expertem. In frigidam me effusa confestim ebullitionem vehementem excitavit non secus ac si calx esset viva; & pedetentim aqua tantum insignem calorem concepit, ut ovis citò coquendis pares sit. Quum hæc Creta in Thermarum vicinia reperiatur, verisimile existimo aquam thermalem hoc igne ca-*

lescere

lescere. Non ignoro authores passim Thermarum calorum Sulphuri aut Bitumini ascribere. Verùm, quamvis negari non possit Magnam Bituminis & Sulphuris copiam in his scaturaginibus reperiri, i. sq; has thermas abunde impregnari convincat cura scabiei, ulcerum, tremoris paralyseos, &c. dubito tamen an eorum aliquod fermenti aquam calefacere nati rationem habere possit, quum utrumq; aciditate, fermentationis opifice, destitutum sit: neutrum verò in aquam conjectum fermentationem aut calorem producere possit; & quum eorum consistentia tenax sit & viscida, Bituminis praesertim, ut aqua in minimas eorum particulas expeditè se insinuare non possit; fit ut ad ejusmodi fermentationem sint inepta; Cujus contrarium in consistentia friabili, & minimè cohaerente hujus Cretæ continget. Locus ubi hoc fossile fuit repertum, terra est spongiæ instar porosa, ut facile appareat illud florem esse sive ἀποκρισιν Mineralium fermentantium unà cum Zumotinis spiritibus sursum eluctantem. Verùm quid in hâc obscuritate potius statuendum sit, tuo judicio ego libenter subjicio, gratesq; quam possum maximas humanitati tuæ refero &c.

Vir Ampl. & Excel.

Famulus Devinctissimus,

Edm. Meara.

The

The *English* thus in effect:

Bath, Auguſt the 2d 1659.

To the Worſhipful his very much honored friend *Fran. Prujean* D. of Phyſick, &c.

W. and H. *Sir,*

WHat I ſhould have done long ſince, &c. The Sacrifice I bring to your Altar, will not I conceive be ungratefull. It is the ſtrange accidentall diſcovery of a noble Miſtery touching the cauſe of the heat of the Baths here; the ſearch into which hath long exerciſed the moſt famous Phyſicians, the manner of it was thus. The right Honourable the Lord Fairfax, who continues ſtill at the Bath with his Lady, riding abroad not far from this City two days ago, to take the air, by chance found a kind of Chalke as white as ſnow, working here and there out of the ground in little heaps, like earth caſt up by Moles. A piece of this he brought home, and ſhewed me. It is a crumbling matter, and almoſt of its ſelf turns to a ſmall light duſt: its taſt is manifeſtly acide without aſtriction, but by little and little biting, and cauſing an extream hot ſtrangulation in the mouth, ſo that I am perſwaded it hath much Chalcanthus in it, and is not altogether without Arſenick. I put it into cold water, and preſently it fell a boiling, and bubbling apace, juſt as if it had been quick Lime; and by degrees the

water

ater grew so very hot that it would quickly have boil-l an Egge. Now seeing that this Chalk is found near he Bath, *I conceive it not unlikely that it is this, that eats the* Bath-*water, I know very well that Authors enerally attribute the heat of* Baths *to Sulphur or Bi-umen. Nevertheless, though it cannot be denyed that here is a great quantity of Bitumen and Sulphur ound in these Springs, and the cure of Scabbiness, Ul-ers, Trembling, the Palsey, and the like diseases doth vince that the* Baths *are plentifully impregnated with hem; yet I doubt whether either of them hath any hing of a fermentative power in them to heat water, eing both of them want acidity, the efficient cause of ermentation; and neither of them being put into wa-er can produce any fermentation or heat. And since heir consistance is clammy and viscid (especially that f Bitumen) that water cannot readily insinuate it lf into the minute particles of them, they must needs e unfit for any such fermentation; The contrary of hich will follow upon the crumbling and incoherent onsistence of this Chalk. The place where this Fossile as found, is an earth porous like a sponge, so that it la'nly appears to be (as it were) the flos, or excri-ence of fermenting Minerall, working up out of the Earth with those Spirits, that cause the fermentation. ut what to determine, and say positively in this dark iddle, I know not; and therefore humbly submit it to our judgement; returning you most cordial thanks, &c.*

W. and H. Sir, Your most obliged

servant *Ed. Meara.*

Mend-

Mendip-Hills in this shire afford great abundance of Lead. I have heard it reported that the Lead Ore in these hills is found by a very strange means. There are men, they say, that go up and down upon the hils with forked hazle-wands in their hands near the places where they suspect the Ore to be; And the nature of the wands is, that when they pass over a place where Ore is, they bend and draw down to the Earth toward the Ore of their own accord; and so they Ore is found. They say likewise, that any hazle wand wil not do it, but that these we speak of, are prepared after a secret manner, the mystery of which is kown but to some very few men there who make a living out of this Art of theirs, by finding out the Ore for the owners. This story is very strange, and unlikely to be true: nor could I have given any credit to it, had I not read in *Sebastian Munsters Cosmography*, that in the Silvermines in *Germany* the place where the Ore lies, and the veins run, is found by this very means of Hazle-wands. And in one of the figures of his Book he gives us the picture of a fellow going along upon the hills, with a forked wand, or stick in his hand, *ad explorandum metallum*. Besides this I remember very well that the *Necromancers* have a kind of rodds, called *Mosaicalt* rodds (which are nothing but Hazle-wands, cut upon such a day of the week, under such a constellation, and prepared with abundance of ceremonies and cir-

cum

umstances partly Scottish, partly impious) the vertue whereof they say, is to find out treasure hidden in the ground.

WILTSHIRE.

IN the edge of this Shire between *Luckinton*, a great *Badminton* (the seat of my noble Lord and Master, the Lord *Herbert*) is a place called the Caves; and by some the Giants caves, according to the language of ignorance, fear, and superstition. They are upon the top of a rising hill, a number about. And some of them are (or were formerly) cemented with lime. Some of them are deeper and some shallower; some broader and longer then others. They lye altogether in a row. The manner of them is two long stones, set upon the sides, and broad stones upon the top to cover them. The least of these Caves is four foot broad, and some of them are nine or ten

foot

foot long. This is, the account, which I have received from some neighbour Gentlemen touching them with which I was fain to content my self, because the Earth and Rubbish is now so fallen in, that (without digging) nothing almost can be seen, but the place where they are the cavities being all filled up, and bushes over growing them. I presume these cauls are nothing else but the tombes of so many *Saxon* or *Danish Heroes*, (or it may be *Romans* slain in a battle fought not far from the place. The curiosity of some ingenious men (as it is reported) within these 40 years, tempted them to dig into it, and make a search for some Antick remains, but they found nothing, but an old Spur, and some few other things not worth the mentioning. The broadness of the stones is not at all strange, since the whole Country hereabout is flatty, and in many places affords stones altogether as large as these.

In this shire is a small Rill, called Deverill which runneth a mile under ground, like as also doth the little River Molein *Surrey*, and the river *Anas* in *Spain*, and the Niger in *Africk*.

Near *Warmister* (saith *Cambden*) is a natural round, and high copped hill called Clay Hill. Why *Cambden* should think this hill to be naturally so as it is, I know not: Sure I am, there is the like round and high copped hill about a mile Southward from *Aubury* in this shire, called *Silbury*-Hill, in the road from *Bath* to *Marlborough*; which seems not, for many reasons, to be natural, but to have been cast up by mens hands

hands, and it is not impossible that Clay Hill may have been made by the same means.

At *Ivy*-Church was in times past found a Corps 12 foot long, as the tradition runneth, and a Book of very thick Partchment, all written with great Roman Letters, but when the leaves were touched, the mouldred to dust.

In the forrest of *Savernac* grows a kind of sweet Ferne.

Sometimes there breaks out water in the manner of a sudden land flood, out of certain stones (that are like rocks) standing aloft in open fields near the rising of the river Kenet in this shire, which is reputed by the common people a fore runner of death. That the sudden eruption of Springs in places, where they use not always to run, should be a sign of death, is no wonder. For these usuall eruptions (which in *Kent* we call Nailbourns) are caused by extream gluts of rain, or lasting wet weather, and never happen but in wet years (witness the year 1648. when there were many of them) In which years Wheat, and most other grain thrive not well (for a plain reason) and therefore a dearth succeeds the year following. The Country Proverb in *Kent* is, that drought never makes a dearth; Which was sufficiently verified in the years 1654 and 1655. when (after that lasting drought that began in 1651, and continued till 1655.) the price of Wheat descended to 18d the bushell, and other grain proportionably: And to our purpose, very remarkable it was in the year 1654, that severall springs, and

rivu-

rivulets were quite dryed up by reason of the precedent drought, which raged most in 1651, 52, and 53. As the head of the stoure, that riseth near *Elham* in *Kent*, and runs through *Canterbury*, was dry for some miles space; and the like happened to the stream that croseth the Road way between *Sittingborn* and *Canterbury* at *Ospring* near *Feversham*, which at other times ran with a plentifull current, but then wholly failed, like the Brooks in *Israel* in the days of *Ahab*.

The *Stonehenge* upon *Salisbury* plain in this shire, is counted the most admirable rarity, that our Island affords. It is in this manner. There are in a pit great stones standing upright. Some being 28 foot high, and 7 foot broad, in three ranks round like a Crown, and overthwart them are laid others with tenants and Mortises. Now the great wonder and question among the learned is, how these stones came hither. For say they, it is not likely that they were *ab initio*, placed here by the God of nature, because the whole Country round for some miles affords not a stone hardly, either great or small. And they seem too vast to be brought hither by waggon or the like carriages. The learned *Cambden* therefore thinks, that they were made there by art, of pure sand, and some unctuous cement, even as those also in *Yorkshire*, because anciently there was such an art of making stone. And *Pliny* saith that the dust of *Puteoli* (*Puzzole*) being laid in water becometh stone presently, and that there were Cesterns at

Rome

Rome, made of digged sand, and lime, which were so firm and hard, that they seemed stone. But notwithstanding the authority of this great Scholar, I am clearly of opinion that they are naturall stones, and placed there [illegible]itio; Then which I think nothing is plainer. Upon the Downs between *Marleborough* and *Aubury*, not above 20 miles from *Stonehenge*, which Downs are but a continuation, or rather a part of *Salisbury* plain, differing nothing from it but in the un-evenness, are to be found abundance of great stones, commonly called by the Country thereabout, the Gray Weathers; and at *Aubury* in an Orchard there are halfe a dozen, or halfe a score stones little inferiour to the *Stonehenge* for hugeness, some standing upright like the *Stonehenge*, & others lying flat on the ground. And the Country here, like that about the *Stonehenge*, affords not a stone beside. So that unless we will have all these stones to be artificiall, wee must grant the *Stonehenge* to be natural. Now whereas this unstoninesse of the Country about which we speak of, seems to some a strong objection against the naturalness of the stones, it is on the contrary, if duly considered, a great argument for it. For what can be more probable, then that Nature could not provide her selfe otherwise of Lapidifick matter enough to make these huge stones of, but by robbing the circumjacent parts. The more of that matter there, the less hereabouts; because nature wanting timber, would fetch it nearest hand. I have no more to add touching the *Stonehenge*, but that near it mens bones are digged up ma-

ny times, The reaſon of which is, becauſe it was the ancient burying place for the Kings of the *Britans*.

About *Sapworth* near *Sharſton* are found abundance of ſtones ſomewhat like *Cockles*, yet ſo apparently differing from their ſhape, that by the very ſight of them one may plainly ſee that they never were true *Cockles*; as ſome do believe. But of theſe I ſhall ſpeak more in *Glouceſterſhire*.

In the Pariſh of *Luckington* in the edge of this Shire (formerly mentioned) is a well called *Hancocks-well*, the water whereof is ſaid to be very cold in Summer, and Warm in Winter, and is commended as a ſingalar water for the eyes.

HANTSHIRE.

AT *Portſmouth* in this ſhire, they boile Salt out of Salt-water, which is our Bay-Salt being of a pale or greeniſh colour; and by boiling it again with an art the have they make it exceeding white.

This ſhire is very plentifull for all ſorts of commodities, eſpecially for Kerſies and Iron.

Out of the walls of *Silceſter* in this ſhire a decayed Town grow huge Oaks (of ten loads a piece

piece, (saith *Stow*) that seem to grow to the very stones, spreading both their tops and their roots exceedingly. Also

Near this Town of *Silcester*, though the land be fruitful enough generally, yet in some places (as it were by Beds) the Soil is nothing near so fruitful as elsewhere, which makes men think, that along these Beds the streets of the old town formerly went. And (which is observable) these unfertile beds do intersect each other, like streets: The conjecture is not unlikely, because the like is reported of the streets of old *Richborough* by *Sandwich* in *Kent*.

The Isle of *Wight* is a wholesom air, and the dwellers very aged. It affords plenty of Corn, and the best Wool, next to that of *Lemster* and *Cotswald*; As also plenty of Conies, Hares, Pheasants, Partridges, *&c.*

Our *Chroniclers* tel us, that in the year 1176. in the *Isle of Wight*, it rained a shower of blood for two hours together.

At *Wickham* in this Shire are Medicinal Waters.

It is reported, that about *Portsmouth* is a race of small Dogs, like Beagles, that they use there to hunt Moles with, which they hunt as their proper natural Game.

BERKSHIRE.

AT *Finchamstead* in this Shire, in the year 1100. as Writers say, a Well boiled up with streams of blood, and continued so 15. dayes together, whose Waters madered all other where they came. A story not incredible, though very strange; because we read of several the like stories touching Fountains in other Countreys, in Authors of good credit.

In this Shire is one of the fruitful Vales of *England* for Corn, called the *Vale of White-Horse*.

About the year 1348. (saith *Cambden*) being presently after the *Conjunction of Saturn* & *Mars* in *Capricorn*, was a very great Plague over all *Europe*, and then was *Wallingford*, (being a bigger and more considerable Town then now it is) almost dis-peopled with it. The *Conjunction* of *Saturn* and *Mars*, that *Cambden* means, was 1342. *Ann.* in *February*, and it happened in 25. *degrees* of *Capricorn*; but in my opinion, it ushered its pretended effect at too large a distance to entitle it self the cause of it. Nor can I believe so small a cause could produce so great an effect; conjunctions of *Saturn* and *Mars* happening constantly every two years, and sometimes

(though

(though very rarely) three of them happening in one year, (as in the year 1640, in the last face of *Aquarius*, and (if *Pitatus* have calculated right) in the year 1542. in the first face of the pestilent sign *Scorpio*) without any such extraordinary effects succeeding them. And which is as observable as any thing; in the year 1578. was a Conjunction of *Saturn* and *Mars* in 23 degrees of *Capricorn*, (but two degrees short of the Conjunction, 1342.) and yet the following years were not guilty of any extravagant Mortalities. Therefore I conceive it will not be amiss to ascribe rather this black effect to something nearer 1348, *viz.* to the Conjunction of *Saturn* aud *Jupiter* in 1345, in 18 degrees of *Aquarius* (which Astrologers reckon the house of *Saturn*) a Conjunction of greater importance and influence, and so more likely to produce a greater effect. And yet I would not be too bold to fasten it upon this Conjunction of *Saturn* and *Jupiter* neither (till further enquiry be made) because other Conjunctions of *Saturn* and *Jupiter* in *Aquarius* have passed over more lightly. Unless we will say that there may be some particular venom about the 18 degree of *Aquarius*, which other degrees of *Aquarius* farther off are not infected with. And indeed in the year 553 we are told by *Alsted*, that there raged so horrid a plague at *Constantinople*, that there died 5000. in a day, and sometimes 10000. in a day, which was not above two years after a Conjunction of *Saturn* and *Jupiter* in 19 degrees of *Aquarius*, which happened 551.

Cambden takes notice, that abundance of *Fern* grows about *Reading*, a Plant that loves gravelly and sandy places, such as that Country is all about.

Surrey.

THis County is commended for a healthful air; the cause is its sandiness, and being an Inland County.

Under *Holmecastle* standing upon a hill of Gri or crumbling stone, is a great Vault of Arche work. Architects tell us that Arched work is th more firm, by how much the greater weight li upon it.

The River *Mole* runs above a mile under groun and at the place where it falls into the grou groweth abundance of Box naturally. Inqui might be made by *Herbarists*, whether the ear be not of the same nature and composition, whe the same Vegetables grow naturally.

Near *Non-such* is a Vein of Potters earth mu commended, of which *Crucibles* are made for me ing of Gold, &c.

The rising of a Bourn or stream near *Croy* (as the common people hold) presageth dea or the plague; and it hath been observed fall out so. The rising of Bourns in places whe they run not alwayes, wee have before p ved to be caused by great wet years, which (

cordi

cording to *Hypocrates* observation) are gene-
ally the most sickly; and if they prove hot, as
el as wet, (because heat and moisture are the
reat disposers to putrifaction) they prove al-
o malignant, and for the most part pestilential.
nd the reason why the using of this *Bourn* doth
ot always presage the Plague, is because all wet
ears do not presage hot.

It is observed, that few or no Rivers do ebb
nd flow so far up from the Sea, as the River of
Thames, which flows up as high as *Richmond* in
his Shire: The reason of which is very plain,
epending chiefly upon two very great causes.
The first is the coming in of the flood, at both
nds of this Island, that is, from the Westward
y the Cape of *Cornwall*, and from the North-
ard, by the North end of *Scotland*, which (as
ur Books of Navigation tell us) meet at a
Rock called the *Galloper* (which lyes right against
he mouth of the River of *Thames*, between it
nd the coast of *Holland* and *Flanders*, about the
id-way) with very great noise and rippling:
Now the two floods (as I said) meeting here,
must needs hinder the course of each other, and
y consequence make the Sea swell much in this
lace, and so easily discharge it self by a strong
lood into the neighboring River of *Thames*, ly-
ng so conveniently for its reception. The other
ause is the motion of the Earth from West to
ast, whibh carrying the banks of the *Thames* a-
ong towards the place where the mouth of it
was but now, must needs (as it were) draw the
Water into it, by leaving it behind. And perad-

venture upon enquiry, it will be found that the floods run more ſtrongly (for this reaſon) up into thoſe Rivers that diſcharge themſelves into the ſea on the Eaſt ſide of a great Iland or Continent, then thoſe on the Weſt ſide; and that where there are Currents or Streams that run thwart on upon a ſhore, they beat more violently (in calm weather) upon Eaſtern, then Weſtern ſhores. But whether this be the reaſon why on the Eaſt ſide of the Continents of *Aſia*, *Africa*, and *America*, there be many more ſmall Iſlands, then on the Weſtern ſide of thoſe Continents, (for ſo our Maps inform us, witneſs *Japan*, the *Philippine* Iſlands, the *Moluccos*, the *Maldivæ*, the two *Javas*, *Sumatra*, *Madagaſcar*, *&c.* on the Eaſtern ſide of *Aſia* and *Africk*, and the great ſwarm of Iſlands, called, the *Summer Iſlands*, (to which we may ad thoſe vaſt ſhoulds on the coaſt of *Braſil*, (on the Eaſtern ſide of *America*) or whether it be from the conſtant Intra-tropical Eaſtwind that galls the Lee-ſhores, and hath in long proceſs of time carved them ſo curiouſly into Iſlands, is hard to ſay at preſent, but muſt be left to a more through diſquiſition.

The Waters of *Ebbeſham* in this ſhire are very famous, and much frequented for their Medicinal virtue, and purging by ſiege. Theſe Waters without doubt receive their Tincture from ſome Mineral-Maſs that lurks in the neighboring hills (it may be under *Banſtead-Downs*) and that the bowels of the earth hereabout are pregnant of ſome ſuch matter, ſeeming by that Crucible-Clay (mentioned but now) found about

Non-

Non-such, which (as I am told) blushes something like *Terra Lemnia* in some places.

It is reported, that on the hills by *Farneham* are Snake-stones to be found, of the form (but not of the colour) of those at *Alderley* in *Glocestershire*.

SUSSEX.

THis is a Maritine County, and therefore no wonder it affords plenty of Fish and Sea-Fowl. The Soil is rich, the Land low, and the Ways deep. It was anciently in a manner an entire Wood, being part of the great Wood *Andradswald*, which was 120. miles long, and 30. miles broad.

In this County are many Iron Mines, but the Iron here made is more brittle then *Spanish* Iron. Also,

Here they make Glass, but it is neither very good, nor very clear.

The place at *Battel*, where the fatal battle was fought between *William the Conqueror* and *Harold*, looks of a reddish colour after rain. *I cannot think it to be the Conquerors Livery that it still wears. No doubt that was worn out long since, both colour and Cloath, unless that kind of ground be more retentive*

of

of ſtains then others; or hath better luck then the places where the great Battels of our late Warres have been fought, where no ſigns remain at all of the Tragedies acted there. Certainly it is nothing but the natural colour of the earth, which it had before that Battel; for all men know, that in ſeveral parts of England *the earth is more then reddiſh, as in ſome places of the Weald of* Kent, *and particularly at a place in the lower ſide of the Pariſh of* Sutton-Valence.

The Downs in *Suſſex* by the ſea-coaſt, becauſe they ſtand upon a fat Chalk, or Marle, are abundantly fertile of Corn. *Downs generally are barren, becauſe either they were* ab initio, *of a hungry Clay, or elſe if they conſiſted of light looſe earth (which is generally more fertile then other ſorts of earth) yet it is continually waſhed away by great rains into the Valleys. I mean the upper face of the earth before it is rotted enough to be fat, and diſpoſed for generation. But where downs and deſcents (as theſe we ſpeak of) conſiſt of a fat clammy paſte, Chalk or Marle, the great ſhoots of rain have not power to moulder it ſo faſt, and waſh it away into the Valleys; ſo that being fat & fertile at their firſt Creation, it is eaſie for them to continue ſo. It is obſerved in* Gloceſterſhire, *(and it may be is as true in all Clayie Countreys) that the hills, and ſides of hills are the moſt wet and clayie. The cauſe doubtleſs is the ſame with this, to wit, That the rains that fall, waſh by degrees the uppermoſt mould down into the Valleys, becauſe it is more looſe and light; but leaves the underclay behind, becauſe more ſtiff and faſt, and ſo very hardly to be tempted away. And this I ſuppoſe to be the reaſon why waters running over meer Clay, or iſſuing from it, are hungry, and clear, as we find in our land-*

land-springs about Badminton, *because the Clay is unapt to mix with the water. And I suppose for the same reason, that if Downs consisting of light loose earth were ploughed, they would in process of time (by constant ploughing) lose much of their unevenness, and become plain. (I mean where there are no enclosures to stop the course of the washed mould) whereas lying unploughed, they continue with very little alteration: But for the same reason Clayie Downs ploughed are not likely to suffer any great change.*

At *Selsey* in this shire (saith *Cambden*) are great store of *Cockles* and *Lobsters*; probably the shore there is rocky and hard, which kind of places *Lobsters* and *Cockles* delight in.

In the year 1250. the Town of *Winchelsey* was swallowed up of the Sea. The like fate befel the Lands of Earl *Goodwin*, which were (as we read) once firm Land; but then by a sudden inundation of the Sea devoured, (and turned into *Goodwin Sands*;) As also were at the same time a great part of the Low-Countries, and some part of *Scotland*, as *Hector Boethius* saith.

Kent.

THis County being a kind of *Peninſula*, the Sea and the *Thames* encompaſſing the greateſt part of it; the air is not very clear becauſe of vapors continually riſing. Nor is it ſo cold (ſaith *Speed*) as other parts of *England* are: Which muſt be underſtood of the low places near the ſea, where the air is not onely not ſo cold as in other parts of *England*, but alſo as in other parts of *Kent*, as appears by the ſooner diſſolving of the ſnow in Winter, upon a thaw in theſe places, then in the Upland and hilly parts of the County, where it many times in Winter ſnows, when in the low *Maritime* places nothing falls but rain. My ſelfe hath ſeverall times obſerved it ſo, and I believe the like difference may be obſerved between the Upland and *Maritime* places in other Countries.

No Mines in *Kent*, but a little Iron about *Tunbridge*.

The Medicinall Wells at *Tunbridge* are ſufficiently known. To render a reaſon of which we need ſay no more, then that they are made ſo Medicinal by iſſuing from, or running through the Iron Mines there. And that which induces me the more to think ſo, is becauſe the Waters are ſo good for Splenitick Diſeaſes, in which Pouder of Steel is ſo often preſcribed. I do almoſt believe, could the truth

truth of it be well searched out, it will hold as an Universal Maxim, that whereſoever the Waters are Medicinal, there are near the place Iron Mines, or ſome of the baſer Metals, and that whereſoever the hot Springs riſe, (as at the *Bath* here) there are near the place Mines of Silver, Tin, or ſome of the purer ſort of Metals. For we all know, that in *Devonſhire* and *Cornwall* the Tin Mines are, where alſo Silver hath been found, as it hath likewiſe been in *Wales*: Nor is it impoſſible that the like Metals might be found nearer *Bath*. So much is already certain, that the Coals that are digged about *Briſtol*, and ſeveral parts in *Gloceſterſhire*, have Metalline veins (many of them) running along them like Gold, as is aforeſaid in *Cornwall*. And it is very obſervable alſo, that in the Confines of *Germany*, between it and *Helvetia*, and in ſundry places of *Saxony*, and the parts thereabout, there are as abundance of hot Baths, ſo alſo abundance of Silver Mines.

It is reported that at *Egerton* near *Lenham*, is a Spring, whoſe Water turns Wood into Stone.

Three miles directly South from *Tunbridge*, near *Frant*, in the very edge of *Suſſex*, in a white ſandy ground, are diverſe huge craggy ſtones, of ſtrange forms, whereof two of the greateſt ſtand ſo cloſe together, and yet are divided with ſo ſtrait a Line, as one would think they had been ſawn aſunder.

A ſmall Rivulet of *Medway* loſeth it ſelf under ground, and riſeth again at a Pariſh called *Looſe*, not far from *Cocks Heath*.

There

There are three ridges of Hills in *Kent*: The first is that, that runs by *Boxley*, *Dettling*, *Hellingborn*, &c. and is called *Health without Wealth*. The second is that that runs along by *Smton-Vleomb*, *Bostow*, *Matherfe*, &c. and is called, *Health and Wealth*. The third is that, that runs by *Tenterden* and is called, *Wealth without Health*: Names very proper for them, and the reason very plain why they are so.

August the 4th. 1585. after a very violent tempest of Thunder and Rain, at *Motingham* in this Shire, eight miles from *London*, the ground suddenly began to sink, and three great Elmes growing upon it, were carried so deep into the earth that no part of them could any more be seen. The hole left, (saith the story) is in compass 80. yards about, and a Line of 50. fathom plummed into it finds no bottom. Also,

December the 18. 1596. A mile and half from *Westram*, Southward (which is not many miles from *Motingham*) two Closes lying together, separated with a hedge of hollow Ashes, there was found a part thereof 12. Perches long, to be sunk six foot and a half deep; the next morning 15. foot more; the third morning 80. foot more at the least, & so daily that great Trench of ground, containing in length about 80. Perches, and in breadth 28. began with the Trees and Hedges on it, to loose it self from the rest of the ground lying round about it, and withall, to move and shoot Southward day and night for eleven days. The ground of two Water-pits, the one six foot deep of Water, the other 12. at the least, and about four

our Perches over in breadth, having ſundry tuffs of *Aldars* and *Aſhes* growing in the bottoms, with great Rock of Stone under them, were not only removed out of their places, and carried toward the South, at leaſt four Perches a-pieces; but withall mounted aloft, and become hills, with their edge, flags, and black mud upon the tops of them, higher then the face of the Water (which they had forſaken) by 9. foot, and in the place from which they are removed, other ground, which lay higher, is deſcended, receiving the Water which lyes upon it. Moreover in one pace of the plain field, there is a great hole made by ſinking of the earth to the depth of 30. foot at the leaſt, being in breath in ſome places two Pearches over, and in length five or ſix pearches. Alſo there is a hedge 20. pearches long, carryed Southward with his Trees ſeven pearches at the leaſt. And ſundry other ſinkings there be in diverſe places, one of 60. foot, another of 47. and another of 34. foot. By means of which confuſion it is come to paſs, that where the higheſt Hills were, there be the deepeſt Dales, and the loweſt Dales are become the highſt grounds. The whole meaſure of breaking was at the leaſt nine Acres, ſeven days works, and four Pearches, *&c.* To this effect is this ſtrange ſtory related in our Chronicles, with the other of *Notingham*, both which we have no reaſon to doubt the truth, ſince of late years; namely *Anno* 1657. we have had a freſh example of an Earthſinking at *Bickley* in *Cheſhire*, of which we ſhall ſpeak in its place, and which anſwers to that of *Notingham*. And our Chronicles afford us two very

ry remarkable ſtories of Earth-removing, one in *Herefordſhire*, 1571. *Marcley-Hill*, and another at *Armitage* in *Dorſetſhire*, of which we have already ſpoken. Now for Earth ſinking, I conceive I have found out the cauſe (in caſe the Country about *Motingham* and *Bickley* be looſe and ſandy) and imagine it to be this: The Springs that run to and fro in the body of the earth, the deeper they run the more they are encreaſed in quantity; and as they run thus, if the earth be looſe or ſandy, they muſt needs waſh and carry away the ſand or looſe earth with them by degrees, and ſo make their paſſages bigger and bigger, both in breadth & depth. For the earth being hollowed and vaulted by this means, the ſieling (as I may call it) of this Vault (being as we conceived ſandy and looſe) moulders and drops down by degrees into the ſtream under it, which as it falls, ſtill clears it away; and thus at length it is not improbable, that it becomes a very ſpacious and deep hollowneſs. Now while this hollowneſs continues thus encreaſing, ſometimes little, ſometimes much, according as the temper of the year augments, or diminiſhes the bulk & force of the waters) there comes at length a great gluſh of Rain, which exceedingly encreaſing the waters, and by conſequence the violence of theſe ſubterranian ſtreams, they waſh away now much more of the ſides of the Vault (this little River overflowing its ordinary banks) then at other times, and withall the weight of the incumbent earth (that I mean which lyes right over this cavity) is much augmented by the extream wet. So that the weight being much more, and the ſtrength to ſup-

port

port the mass of Earth much less. I cannot conceive what can follow hereupon, but a sinking of the incumbent Earth to the very bottom, how deep soever it be; Sometimes by degrees, and sometimes all at once, according to the nature of the Earth, which in some places I confess, though sandy, yet may not be meer sand; And it may be the air within the vault gives not place so quickly, as the earth hath desire to descend, but must be squeezed out by little and little. Further I conceive, that after great wets, the strong tendency of the waters downward altogether, presseth in the air in the vault on all sides, and so begets a conflict between the water and the air, the air struggling outragiously to free it self, which conflict begets a confusion, and this confusion must needs loosen the incumbent earth, and so much contribute also to its falling in, if it be loose and sandy. And I am of opinion, that whensoever the truth comes to be found out, it will appear, that this tumultuary tendency of waters downward (after great wets) pressing in the air (as I said) in hollow places of the Earth, begets a conflict, and that a concussion, which is that we call an Earthquake. For so much is truer then truth it self, that Earthquakes always succeed great wets, *or a sudden glut, and pest of rain in the time of a great drought*, See *Hakewill*. Which commonly falls all in one place, or Country, and none in another, and is for the most part much more large and pouring, then in stopping years for a plain reason; Witness that horrid thunder-shower, that poured down so

much rain in ſo ſhort a time and within ſo little compaſs of ground, and made ſo great a flood in the Pariſh of great *Badminton* in *Gloceſterſhire*, *June* 1652. in the middle of the greateſt drought that our age hath known. Beſides it is further to be conſidered, that ſandy places doth more eaſily let in the rain into the bowells of the Earth, ſo that it diſtills not down by drops, but preſently and almoſt altogether; nor can it mix with the ſand to make dirt, and evaporate upward from whence it came (as rain doth in moſt ſorts of earth) but deſcends more entire, little or none of that wet that falls, returning, unleſs the Sun ſhine very forciblyout, immediately after the rain and then it cannot draw much neither. And I partly believe, that thoſe little ſinkings of Earth in ſandy ways in wet years (called Quickſands ſuch as I have ſeen one towards the upper end of *Bolton*-ſtreet, in the road between *Sittingbourn* and *Canterbury*, and others in many other places are but the effects of ſome of the ſmaller ſorts of theſe cauſes; and the reaſon why they are rather in road-ways, then other places, is onely becauſe of the great weight of carriages, that ſends the pendulous earth going. Thus far I have ventured at the cauſe of earth ſinking, and would attempt as much at earth removings, were I but ſure, that *Machley-hill* in *Herefordſhire*, *Weſtram* in *Kent*, *Armitage* in *Dorſetſhire* were all of a fat and clayey ſoile, and not very ſtiffe; (for then I think I have much to ſay to the cauſe of thoſe too) but till I am ſure, I ſhall be ſilent, though ſome in *Herefordſhire* have told me, that *Marcley-hil* is not as I would have it to be.

In *Tenderden*-ſteeple ſome where about the *Belfrey* (I have been told) there is a ſtone, which as the Rain falls upon it immediately out of the air, or drops down from the ſtones on the ſide of the ſteeple about it, grows in a matter of five or ſix years very manifeſtly, and having been pared away with an Inſtrument, grows up again as high as before.

Upon the ſhores of the Iſle of *Shepey* are found weighty ſtones, out of which Brimſtone and Coperas are tryed by Minſter in the ſame Iſland, by boiling them in a furnace made for the purpoſe.

Nigh *Feverſham*, & likewiſe in other parts of *Kent* are pits of great depth (ſaith *Cambden*) narrow at the mouth, and very wide below, which have diſtinctions of rooms and Chambers, as it were with ſeverall pillars of Chalk to ſupport them; out of which he thinks, the old *Britans* dug Chalk to manure their Land withall, as *Pliny* alſo ſaith: And which is obſervable, and much to the purpoſe, they are not found but in Chalky and Marly ſoile. The pits *Cambden* means, *I* ſuppoſe, are the great pit near the Town, called *Hagdale*-Pit; The great Chalk pit joining to the Road-way, between *Feverſham* and *Bocton*; There is another too on the right hand of the way going up from the Town toward *Shelwich*, near *Copton* Farme-houſe; another between *Davington* Church, and Stone Church; to which we may adde one or two great pits in the pariſh of *Norton*, in a Field not far from the *Beacon*-hill, which are very deep, and yet very narrow to the top.

Whereſoever the ſtreets went in *Richborow* (an ancient Town near *Sandwich*, long ſince deſtroyed and gone) the corn that is now there ſowed, in thoſe places is but thin. And it is reported that the cement of the old walls is as hard as the ſtone.

Great ſtore of *Sampire* grows on the clifts between *Deale* and *Dover*.

The Weald for wood, Eaſt *Kent* for Corn, *Rumney* for meadow, *Tenham* for an Orchard, *Sheppey* & *Reculuer* for Wheat, *Thanet* for Barley, and *Hedcorn* for the brood of fat, big, and commended Capons.

At *Dengeneſs* for a mile and more grow abundance of Holly trees naturally among nothing but Beach and Pebbles. And weſtward from *Dengeneſs* among the Beach grow peaſon naturally like Cluſters of Grapes together, in taſt very like our field peaſon. The like to which as alſo a kind of Hops do grow naturally among a great deal of Beach and Pebbles in the Marſhes between the Iſle of *Thanet* and *Sandwich*, about a mile (or better) from the Town, as I was told by an inhabitant of *Sandwich*.

Cambden ſuppoſeth, that *England* hath formerly been united to the continent about *Calais*; becauſe in the middle between *Calais* and *Dover* the Sea is but 25 fathom deep (even as between *Sicily* and *Italy* it is but 80 paces, which Iſland likewiſe hath anciently been thought to have been united to *Italy*) but on both ſides of it the Sea is much deeper. Moreover in the very middle between *Calais* & *Dover* is one bank called Frowen-ſhoal which

which at a low water is scarce three fathom deep, but within halfe a league of it to the Southward it is 27 fathom deep, and to the Northward 25. Likewise the clifts are alike high about *Calais* and *Dover*, and of the same matter and colour. My opinion is, that the Shallowness in that place may peradventure be caused rather from the narrowness of the Sea there, and its being so near the place where the two floods meet, that come in at both ends of the Island (of which I spake before) &so by degrees work up the sand, gravel, stones, &c here in heaps, which they wash from the ground, as they come along; and not from having been the *Isthmus* of *England* formerly. For I have been told by credible men, that between the Isle of *Shepey* and the continent of *Kent*, at the place where the two floods meet, that come in at both ends of the Island, there is the like shelfe or shallow place, that lyes cros from the continent to the Island, which no doubt is caused by the same means. But as to the likeness of the cliffs on both sides; I am able to say nothing of it.

It is reported that at *Sellenge* and *Egerton*, about 40 years ago were medicinall waters.

Cranebrook hath the name for good Beer.

It is reported, that there are no moles in the Isle of *Shepey*, and that if they be carryed over thither (as it hath been tryed) they will not live.

The Isle of *Thanet* is all Chalky, and hath the name for the best Barley. *Query*, Whether Chalky land be not the most naturall soyle for Barley.

Tenham, and the parishes in that levell, are very unhealthfull. The reason is, because they stand low, and among the marshes. And another reason may be, because the earth there is very rotten, and quagmiry, and therefore is apt to mix with the Spring-waters that issue from it, and corrupt them.

The River Stoure, that runs through *Canterbury*, breeds the best Trouts in the South-East parts of *England*.

At *Boxley Abbey*, about two miles from *Maidstone*, is a Spring, the water whereof (as it is reported) in nine days will turn sticks, and such like wood into stone.

In the Parish of *Lewesham*, about six miles from *London*, is a Medicinall water. It was found about the year 1651, and hath been since much frequented. Taken in a good plentifull quantity, it purgeth gently by urine and siege. It riseth on a great Common, upon the descent of the highest hill in that part of *Kent*, and is supposed to issue from an Aluminous earth.

I spake before of the earth sinking at *Mottingham*. I have since viewed the place, and find the Country to be all a gravelly loose earth, according to my *Hypothesis*. The hole where the earth sunk in, lyes in a water-course, and is since by degrees filled up with that sulledge that great rains bring into it.

Glou-

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THe hilly part of this County (called *Caſtwald*) abounds with fine wool, ſmall ſheep which are long-necked, and ſquare of bulk, and bone) and hath a very pleaſant air: The low parts of it are exceeding fruitfull and rich in Corns, ſo that (as *Cambden* ſaith) it returns an hundred for one. The parts about *Briſtol* afford great ſtore of Coals that cake as New Caſtle Coal doth, but yet differ from it, as I have already ſaid. The Northern parts of it are as abundant in fruit; And the Apple trees and Pear trees that grow in every hedge, are not graffed, but grow naturally, by reaſon the ground is ſo inclined to bear fruit; Yet the fruit for beauty and taſt far exceeds all others, and will keep till a new ſupply come; Yea ſome of them will not wither or rivell in a whole year. The part of *Glouceſterſhire* beyond the River of *Seavern* (called the Forreſt of *Dean*) is ſtored with Iron Mines.

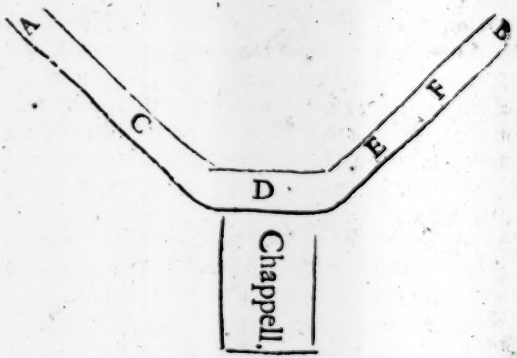
Speed tells us further, that this Shire is very full of Vineyards, which thrive very happily, and bear very pleſant Grapes; ſo that the Wines made of them are little inferiour to the French Wines.

The River of *Seavern* is very ſwift, and there is a daily rage and fury of its waters, raiſing up the Sands and Mire from the bottome, winding and

driving them upon heaps, & ſomtimes overflowing her banks. And the force of this rage is ſuch, that it will overturn a Veſſell, if it take it on the ſide.

Tewkesbury hath a name for excellent muſtard.

About the Quire in the Cathedrall Church of *Glouceſter* in an Arch of it, there is a wall built in form of a Semicircle full of corners; and if a man ſpeak with a very low voice, at the one ſide, or end of it, and another lay his ear to the other, being a good way diſtant, he may very eaſily hear every ſyllable, the other ſpeaks. This whiſpering place I have ſeen, and ſurveighed very carefully. It is in the form, that I have deſcribed here.



ACDEFB is the paſſage of the voice, or whiſpering place. At A and B are the two perſons to ſtand that whiſper to each other. At D the middle of the paſſage is a door and entrance into a

a Chappel, with Window Caſes on each ſide of the door, if I remember right. The Chappel is in the place I deſcribe it. And to my beſt remembrance there are one or two places open upward in the roof of the paſſage. My opinion is, that the Chappel ſtanding ſo in the middle, much conduceth to the conveighing of the ſound ſo entirely, which is helped by the open places in the roof *I* ſpeak of. For they ſeem to draw in the voice, whelſe would not ſo welenter into that narrow paſſage, but reverberate back into that broad open place, before the whiſpering entry. And one thing which makes me think the Chappel doth a great part of the Work, is, for that we ſee in Viols Lutes, and other Muſical inſtruments, there are holes cut into the belly of the inſtrument, juſt under the playing or ſtriking place, which we find by experience do much augment the noiſe of the notes, and make them more audible. But in this, and moſt other things, I ſay, I give but my poor judgement, ſubmitting it to the cenſure of the learned.

At *Stroud* (commonly called *Stroud-water*) they dye Scarlet; the Water there (as they ſay) having a peculiar property to give the right tincture, which other waters generally want. So much variety there is in Water, according to the ſeveral Earths that they paſs through.

No Snakes or Adders to be found about *Badminton*; I ſuppoſe the cauſe to be the barrenneſs and coldneſs of the Land thereabout, for Snakes are bred out of rich, fat, and hot mould, or mud,

mud (whence we find them commonly about ditches, and low, rich, shady grounds, lurking under long grass) of which this Countrey affords no great plenty. Besides being an open Countrey, it wants that shade and shelter that they delight in.

In the fields about *Badminton* are found many times *Cylindrical* stones, long and round, like a mans finger. The inner part of them is like flint, somewhat pellucid, and of a sad brown colour, and it is enclosed round on the outside with a whitish *Putamin*, like Flint too.

About *Badminton* also are several holes (called Swallow-holes) where the Waters (after any great shower of rain, or in Winter, when their Springs run) fall into the bowels of the earth, and are seen no more, nor is it known whether ever they rise again. The most remarkable of them are one or two, in the way between *Badminton* and *Acton Farfeild*. All that I can say to them yet, is, that in a Clayie and flatty Countrey, if there be any inlets and passages into the Earth by reason of its discontinuity here and there, they are likely enough to be kept open, because such kind of earth is not apt to moulder with wet, and fall in, and so dam them up.

At *Alderley* (saith *Speed*) a Countrey Parish 8. miles from the *Severn*, upon the hills, to this day are found Cockles, Periwinkles, and Oysters of solid stone. This place being but four or five miles from *Badminton*, the seat of that noble Family, that I have the honor to be a ser-

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vant to, I have very diligently examined, and found it thus: The place where the ſtones are found, is partly a Sand, and partly a Clay; Cockles I found, but neither Periwinkles nor Oyſters: But though I found not them, yet inſtead of Periwinkles I found many Serpentine ſtones (or Snake ſtones, as they call them thereabout) flat, reſembling the banner of *Dan*, as it's given in the Genealogies at the beginning of ſome of our *Engliſh* Bibles. And inſtead of Oyſters, I found *Scallops*, perfect fragments of them I mean (pardon the ſeeming contradiction) which I conceive had been broken with Ploughing: They were exactly ridged in rows at certain ſhort diſtances, juſt like a *Scallop-ſhell*. Moreover, an honeſt inhabitant of the pariſh beſtowed upon me a whole *Scallop*, that is ſomewhat bigger then the ordinary ſize of *Scallops*, with a perfect ſhell upon it, ridged (as is before ſaid) very naturally, and having an irregular piece of ſtone growing to it. No man that looks upon it, would at firſt ſight imagine it to be other then a true Scallop-ſhell, ſo curiouſly it repreſents it in its colour, and onely exceeds it a little (as I ſaid) in its dimenſion. Beſides theſe, I found other figured ſtones, ſome reſembling very much the Muſcle-fiſh; but they were ſomewhat bigger too, then what they were like; and others like the Kernel of an *Almond*, long, and ſomewhat roundiſh, with two edges oppoſite to each other, and they were ſtreaked and cranked like a Cockle-ſhell. Other little ſtones I found, ſomewhat bigger then a Haſel-Nut, and ſome much leſs, that were

were cranked in like a Cockle-ſhell, but deeper, and not ſo thick together as a Cockle-ſhel: Some of them did reſemble alſo the Cockle very near, others not ſo much; yet all did ſo ſufficiently differ from the form of it, at the ſuppoſed opening place of the Cockle, that a man may eaſily judge that they never were Cockles; for there the two ſhels were bent up in the faſhion almoſt of a blobber-lip. And that which is not unworthy our conſideration, is, that they are few of them like one another; ſome being flatter, others more round; ſome have the lip more turned up, others leſs. They have upon them a whitiſh ſhining ſhel, and within they are (for ſome I have broken) a maſs of little particles, of a pellucid matter (ſomewhat like Alablaſter) grown hard together. The Countrey hereabout for ſome miles round upon the hills, affords many of theſe laſt ſort of ſtones; for I have found them in gravel that was digged in *Badminton*, and ſometimes I have found of them growing to great irregular ſtones about the Countrey. I have been told that about *Sapworth* by *Sharſton*, there are abundance of them to be found. I found one of them in *Witney* Town, ſeven Miles from *Oxford*, upon a paved Cauſey: How it came there, I know not, nor had I time to enquire whether the Countrey thereabout afford any more, or any more of them. The Snake-ſtones I ſpoke of, have a perfect *ſpina* running all along the back of them (as thoſe alſo at *Keynſham* have; but thoſe at *Keynſham* are much bigger then theſe at *Alderley*, and lye in another manner)

ner) with little ridges (like ribs) on both ſides of them, all along from the head without, to the tail within, in the form almoſt of a *Roman* S. and in this they agree with thoſe of *Keinſham* too. Further, the outer part of this ſnaky wreath is diviſible, and may be knocked off from the inner part of the wreath to which it is joined, without taking from it, or loſing to it; ſo that it is not one entire Stone throughout, but is within, as it ſeems without, ſeparable with a little violence; and in this too they agree with the Snake-ſtones of *Keinſham*. Laſtly, on the outſide they have a kind of skale, thin and ſhining, as if it were a little poliſhed; in ſome whitiſh like *Alablaſter*; in others browniſh, of the colour of a dryed Eel-skin; and in others again of a dirty yellow colour, inclining ſomething to red. My opinion of all theſe ſtones, for many reaſons, is that they are not Shel-fiſh petrified (as ſome would have them to be, who think that upon the ebb of the deluge theſe fiſh were left upon the tops of hills, and turned to ſtone by degrees, wanting their former moiſture to keepe them ſoft within, like other Shelfiſh.) For firſt, they are all ſolid within, without any cavity, even the Muſcles, Cockles, and Scallops. Again, ſome of the Muſcles, Cockles, and Scallops, are a great deal bigger then true ones. Thirdly, the Snake-ſtones are without heads generally, if not all; for as for thoſe appearances of heads which ſome fancy at the outer end of ſome of them, I take them rather for irregular pieces of ſtone, and as it were attempts of Nature to continue

the

the wreath further on; but as all works of Nature are finite, she being here at her *Ne-plus-ultra*, is not able to produce what she would, but doth what she can toward it, which is but an imperfect Lump, even as a weak Womb produces a Moon-Calf. Fourthly, some of these Mock-fishes have but half their shapes, the other part being an irregular and deformed Mass, Nature as it were failing in her Workmanship, for want of fit matter in that place. Nay one of the Snake-stones I gathered, hath a Segment (as I may call it) of another less Snake so joined to the side of it, that there can be no room for the other side of the Segment, but in the very body and bulk of the greater. And one of the Cockles I gathered (being indeed but halfe a Cockle, nothing but one Cockle-shel, with a lump of irregular stony matter in the cavity of it) hath within the hollow of the shel almost joining to it, another little Cockle-shel peeping (as it were) out of that irregular stony matter I speak of. Fifthly, these stones are not so absolutely like those creatures they would seem to represent petrified as they should be; for there is an apparent difference between the *Muscle stone*, and the true *Muscle* of the sea; both in the shape of the stones, and in the cranking of it; for it is cranked like a *Cockleshel* almost, which the *Muscleshel* of the sea is not, unless perhaps there be some such *Muscle* of the sea which I never saw. Again, the stone which I said was like the kernel of an *Almond*, I know not what fish or creature to liken it to, unless it be a Snag without

shel,

shel (such as are in *Peason*, and in Gardens at time of year) when his horns are drawn in, and his body is shrunk up; and yet it doth not so perfectly resemble that neither, because this is cranked on the side, and that is not. And yet further, those other little stones which I said were less then *Cockles*, with a lip turned up, are neither exactly like *Cockles*, nor any other Shelfish that I have seen, but seem rather to be as natural stones, as Flints or Pebbles. But that which wil put the matter quite out of doubt, is, that the *Scallop* which I said was given me, and which I have now by me, and intend to preserve for the satisfaction of the curious, is most manifestly different from the true Shel-fish of the Name; for whereas the true *Scallop* hath one shel concave, and the other flat, both the pretended shels of this *Scallop*-stone are concave. So that unless there be a kind of *Scallop* which I never saw yet, this one stone is able to convince any man that these stones are not petrificatious. Natural there is no doubt they are, and such as now they are from the Creation; but how they came to put on such strange and imitating figures, is a secret we dare not meddle with, til we have satisfied Sir *Francis Bacons* mind, by writing a compleat History of *Nature* and *Art*. I onely forget to tel you, that all these stones are found near the surface of the Earth; and if you dig any depth, you find no more of them; and that they are also to be found upon the Hil between *Hilsley* and *Upton* (about a mile from *Alderley* Southward) in the horse-way.

In

In the Parish of *Great Badminton*, in a Field there, called, *Twelve Acres*, the Husbandmen do often times plough up, and find iron Bullets as big as Pistol bullets, and some almost as big as Musket bullets.

At *Tormanton*, (commonly called *Tormarton*) by *Sodbury* is a Quarry of Free-stone, and several others there are about the Countrey. All kinds of stone are not to be found in one kind of earth, but several soils afford several kinds of stone. Chalky Countreys afford Flint; Sandy (if they find any) a great rough stone, generally (I think always) of the colour of the Sand where it is; *Loamy*, a kind of lightish red bastard Flint, such as is to be found in many places in the road way between *Rochester* and the top of *Boxley-hill*; Gravelly Pebbles, and clayie Countreys, in some places afford hard, rough, whitish stone, and in other places Free-stone, according to the difference of the Clay. It seems every soil is most apt to afford that stone that is most of kin, and nearest of nature to it. And therefore it may be, it is the less wonder that Chalky ground should afford Flint, because Flint (like all pellucid substances) being pulverized, becomes almost perfectly white like Chalk. I have no more to add of the Free-stone of *Tormarton*, but that if it be nearly viewed with a diligent eye, it seems to be nothing but an infinite number of little Grains of Gravel cemented together into a Mass, which I think will be found true of all Free-stone

At

At *Laſſington* a village about a mile and a halfe from *Glouceſter* Weſt or Northweſt, on the ſide of a hill, a little below the brow of it, in the high way are to be found little Star-ſtones, the Greeks call them Aſtroites. They are thin (about the thickneſs of a halfe-Crown,) flat and five pointed like a Star or Mullet in Heraldry, onely the points of them are not ſharp, but a little roundiſh, and moſt of them are not ſo big as a ſingle halfe penny, though ſome are very near as big. Further they are of a grayiſh colour, and on both ſides curiouſly graved (as it were by art with a fine graving inſtrument, & a neat hand) as if there were a little Mullet within the great. You ſhall find many of them joined together (flat ſide to flat ſide) in little Columnes, or Priſmes an inch long or more, halfe a ſcore or more of them together, and ſo faſt, that you cannot ſever them without breaking; though they are diſtinguiſhed with a perfect line. I believe they were all knit together in ſuch Columnes at firſt, (even thoſe which are found ſingle) and that they were ſevered by froſt, or ſome ſuch piercing cauſe. Being told of theſe Rarities ſo nigh me, I took a journey to ſee the place, and gathered many of the ſtones, and found them ſuch as I have told you. Being put into Vinegar they have a motion, as other Aſtroites have, though not ſo lively; I ſuppoſe becauſe of the ſhortneſs, and roundiſhneſs of their points, in the form of which I conceive lyes a great part of the cauſe of their motion. Some of theſe ſtones (like the ſtones at *Alderly*) are deficient in their figure, and have the defect ſup-

plied (or rather Super-supplied) with a rugged formless matter, hard like it self. I observed that the ground is a miry deep rotten Clay, and extream bad way in Winter, and (which I wondred most of all at) there were here and there great Pebbles as big as a mans fist, or thereabout, mingled with this rotten earth, and by enquiry I found that this mixture of Pebbles was not from any mending of the high way, but the meer original nature of the Earth, for I found these Pebbles in the fields as well as in the high ways. So that since this thwarts, what we said but now of Pebbles being the naturall companions of gravelly land, we are willing to grant, that (as in Grammar, so) in naturall Philosophy there is no general rule without an exception. Query, Whether in other places, where the Star-stones are found, as about *Shugbury* in *Warwickshire*, and *Belvoir* Castle in *Leicestershire*, the earth be so rotten, deep and miry, and withall whether there be any such great Pebbles mixed with it, as here, and in particular enquire

At *Purton* passage over the River of *Severn* where the shore as it is reported, yieldeth the Star-stones also, but they are bigger, and the Columnes of them longer then at *Lassington*. And indeed accordingly it is delivered to me, as a miry ousy shore in some places, and a quicksand in others, very dangerous for horse and man at low water, and one of the worst passages, over the River at those times.

At *Puckle* Church (about 6 miles from *Bristol*) they dig a kind of Stone that is hard, blewish

broad and about halfe a foot thick, and so even, and the sides so parallel to each other, as if nature had intended it for Tombestones. The stones are many of them of a very great breadth, and lye some six or seven of them one under another in bed, and of about the same thickness all of them; and then they come to a light blewish Clay, below which is no more of this stone to be found. The uppermost bed of the stone lyes very near to the surface of the earth, so that in one place near the Town in the high way, a man rides for ten peirches or more, as if he rode upon a pavement of broad stone, or rather upon one entire stone.

OXFORDSHIRE.

THis County (saith *Speed*) hath a wholesome temperate air, and rich soil.

There are in one place of this shire Stones set up in a round Circle (like the *Stonehenge*) called Rollrich stones.

The City of *Oxford* is a very healthfull place, which *Cambden* thinks is, because it is defended from the South wind, and the West, but lyes open to the North-East and East wind.

On the descent of *Heddenton* hill near *Oxford* lies a spring, which runs down towards Kings-

mill, a mill ſo called, lying over againſt *Magdalen* Colledge. It is reported, that this ſpring hath a petrifying quality, and will in ſome ſhort time, if a ſtick be laid in it, either turn it into ſtone, or wrap it in a ſtony cruſt.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

IN this Shire grows *Beech* in greater plenty, then in any, at leaſt moſt Counties of *England*; and it grows moſt in the Chalky parts of it.

The Sheep in the Vales of this Shire (ſaith *Speed*) have moſt excellent fine and ſoft fleeces.

About *Marlow*, when their land is worn out they make it rich again with Chalking of it, ſo that it bears corn abundantly.

Bedfordshire & Hartfordshire.

Bedfordshire (saith *Speed*) hath temperate air, and in the North good soile, but the South not so good, yet it is excellent good for Barley. So that this County (as also her next neighbour *Hartfordshire*) hath the name for the best Barley in the Eastern parts of *England*.

In the year 1399, just before the warrs brake out between the two illustrious Roses of *York* and *Lancaster*, on New years day, the deep River that passeth between *Suelstone* and *Harwood* (two villages not far from *Bedford* Town) called *Ouse*, suddenly ceased its course, and stood still, so that forward men passed three miles together on foot in the very depth of the Channell, and backward the waters swelled up to a great height, which some judicious men observing, conceived was an ill omen of that division, which followed shortly after between K. *Richard* the second, and his people. I dare not be surety for the truth of every circumstance of this story, yet I believe the main of it may be true. But I cannot conceive how so strange a thing should come about, unless it were by a sudden frost (the time of the year being seasonable for it) which might congeal those waters that fed the stream, at their first issuing out of the earth at the head of the River, the rest of the water

in the mean time passing away down, because being in motion they were not so capable of congelation. Notwithstanding the story mentions not a word of frost, which peradventure might be the cause of it for all that; the custome of those that tell such strange stories, being prudently to conceale those particulars that are likely to bewray the naturall cause, and spoil the miracle; It being as naturall to the generality of visible creatures, to love being the Authors of wonderfull relations as to laugh.

There was in time past an odd story of K. *Offa's* leaden Tomb, (which was once in *Bedford* Town) that it appears often to them that seek it not, but cannot be seen of them that seek it. But whether the report continue still, I know not.

At *Aspley-Goniz* near *Woburn* is an earth, that they say turneth wood into stone, and that a woodden ladder was to be seen in the Monastery hard by, which having lien a good while covered all over with it, was digged out again all stone.

Dunstable stands upon a Chalky ground, having four streets, & in each of them it hath a pond which is fed with rain, and hath no Spring (for they have never a well in the Town under twenty four Cubits deep) and yet these ponds are never dry.

In our remembrance (saith *Cambden*) near *Fishpoole* street in *Saint Albans* certain Anchors were digged up: This is a very strange thing indeed, and very well worth the Ventilating puts me in mind, of what the Poet *Ovid* sing

in the person of *Pythagoras* of *Samos*,

——*Vetus inventa est in montibus Anchora summis.*

On tops of hills old Anchors have been found.

There is near St. *Albans* a Brook called *Wenmere*, or *Womere*, which never breaketh out, but it foretelleth dearth and scarcity of Corn, or else some extraordinary dangerous times shortly to ensue, as the Common people believe. See what we have said of the river *Kennet* in *Wiltshire*, touching the breaking forth of unusuall Springs. If now that it is a brook and runs but seldome, it be of so ill portent, let them that have a mind to smile, say, of how fatall a signification it was, when it was a river, and a Navigable one too, as the Anchors before mentioned seem willing to perswade us.

At *Ashwell* in *Hartfordshire* rise so many sources of Springs together, that they presently drive a Mill, and become a pretty big River. See before, what we said of the Spring at *Chedder* in *Sommersetshire*.

MIDDLESEX.

THe air of this Shire is healthfull (as being all a gravell) and the soile rich, as being generally flat and levell, and having a ready help at hand, the fat compost of a populous City.

At *Barnet* are medicinall waters, very famous.

Heston a small village near *Harrow* on the *Hill*, is very famous for yielding the purest flowr for Manchet.

The water of *Crowders Well* (saith the Author of *Tactometria*) on the back side of St. *Giles* by *Cripplegate*, and that of the Postern Spring on *Tower Hill*, have a very pleasant tast like that of new milk, and are very good for sore eyes. But *Crowders well* is far better of the two. An ancient man (saith the same Author) in *London* whensoever he was sick, would drink plentifully of this *Crowders well water*, and was presently made well again; and whensoever he was overcome of drink he would drink of this water, which would presently make him sober again.

The Stews by the Bank-side (saith *Cambden*) in *Southwarke* were made to feed Pikes & Tenches fat, and to scour them from their muddy Fennish tast. I have seen (saith he) Pikes panches opened with

a knife to shew their fatness, and presently the wounds have come together again by the touch of tenches, and by the help of their glewy slime been perfectly healed up.

The shore of this Shire is washed by the goodly River of *Thames*, which glides along with a much more clear and gentle stream then the river of *Severn*. The cause of the clearness of the Water, is its running in a gravelly Valley, and over a clear ground, Gravel being unapt to mix with Water, when it is stirred, and too heavy to swim very far along with it. The River of *Severn* (as also the River of *Avon* that runs from the *Bath*, and by *Bristol*) is on the contrary a very muddy troubled Water, because it washes a miry and ouzy shore almost all along. For the gentleness of the Current in the *Thames*, we are to know there are two principal causes of it, the great winding of the River, which locks in the Water that it cannot make that haste down to sea, that it would; and the low lying of the head Springs of it, from whence there is but an easie descent to the sea. And I think it is not amiss to note here, that this easie descent of the Waters to the sea-ward, is another reason why the tide flows up so high into the heart of this River. For who sees not, that the more steep the River, the less way is the Tide able to force its way up into it? Swift Rivers have alwayes their Heads lying high, or their course direct, or both. Indeed in case swift Rivers do, or did at first run winding to, and again; yet if their Springs lye high, they will in process of time by their violence

lence pare away the Promontories of their banks, (unleſs they be rocky and ſtubborn) and make their way ſtraighter.

There are in the *Thames* three other things worth obſervation, to wit, its Spring-Tides, its overflowing its banks, and its ſtrange ſhifting of Tides at ſome times; touching all which (becauſe it falls not unhandſomely into this place) I ſhal deliver my conceptions, in regard I have (I think) ſomething to ſay to them, which I never yet read. And firſt, for the Spring-Tides in the *Thames* and other Rivers (which are higher Tides then ordinary, that happen about every ful and change of the *Moon*) the great *French* Philoſopher *Des-Cartes*, endeavours in his *Principia Philoſophiæ*, to give us the reaſon of them, by framing a moſt ingenious *Hypotheſis* (too long here to ſet down) and telling us from the Theorique of the Moon, that the Moon moves ſo in her *Ellipſis*, or Oval-faſhioned Orb about the Earth, that at her ful and change ſhe comes nearer the earth, and in each Quarter goes farther from it; whence (according to his *Hypotheſis*) greater Tides muſt be at ful and change, and neap or low Tides at the Quarters. All which is for the moſt part true indeed; and without doubt the Moon her nearneſs at the Ful and Change, is the cauſe of the Spring-Tides then, even as the Moon's being further off at the Quarters, makes the neap-tides then; but there is another thing conſiderable in the buſineſs, which *Des-Cartes* never conſidered, and which I fear he never knew; that is, that the ſpring-tides come

come not just upon the day of the Full and Change, but follow two or three days after (and so do the Neaps too after the Quarters) which is against him, and seems to shake his *Hypothesis*, I mentioned, that makes the Spring-tides and Neaps to fall just on the days of the Change, Ful and Quarters. To untye this knot, then I conceive the cause why the Spring-tides are at the highest two or three days after the Ful and Change, and not on the very day, *&c.* is the same with that why the sharpest pinching time of Winter comes not just at the shortest day, when the Sun is at the lowest, but in *January*, about a Month or five Weeks after: Why also the coldest time of the night is not at mid-night, but about break of day: Why the hottest time of Summer is in *July*, a Month or five Weeks after the solstice; and why the hottest time of the day is not just at noon, but about two or three a Clock in the afternoon. To illustrate the reason of which, let us suppose a large Cistern which hath a Cock towards, or at the bottom of it, that constantly lets out six Gal. of water (if there be so much in the Cistern) in a certain space of time; and over the Cistern suppose another Cock that conveys Water from some other place into this Cistern, and which runs at first but very slowly, but after by degrees faster and faster, til at length it let in eight Gallons of water in the same space of time that the cock below (as we said) lets out six Gallons: And further, let us suppose that the cock above, after it hath continued running for some small time after

after the rate of eight Gallons doth decreaſe, by the ſame degrees (that before it encreaſed by) to ſeven Gallons, and ſo to ſix, five, four, and ſo leſs and leſs, til at length it quite give over running. There is no man, I think, but wil ſay, that this Ciſtern wil be fuller of Water when it hath decreaſed from eight Gallons, in a ſpace to ſeven Gallons, and yet fuller when it is decreaſed to ſix Gallons and a half, then when it was at ſeven; and fulleſt of all juſt before it is decreaſed to ſix Gallons in a ſpace, becauſe til that time there comes more Water into the Ciſtern at the one Cock, then there goes out at the other. Even ſo, though the heat of the Sun ſimply conſidered in its ſelf, be not ſo great about the middle of *July*, as at the ſolſtice in *June*, becauſe he is deſcended lower; yet becauſe the heat that the Sun pours in the air every day, is greater then the cold which his abſence cauſeth by night, nothing can follow thereupon, but an encreaſe of the heat. And the like may be ſaid of afternoon heats; *January* after-Winters, morning colds, and ſpring-tides coming behind the Fulls and Changes.

In the next place, the *Thames* overflowing its banks proceeds from ſeveral cauſes, as from great rains, whereby the freſh Waters encreaſe up the River, and going down to ſea-ward, are encountred by the Flood, whence they muſt needs ſwel above their uſual height; of which there was a notable example in the year 1555. when by reaſon of exceſſive rains that had fallen, all *St. Georges* Fields in *Southwark*, and *Weſt-*

minſter-

minster-Hall were overflown. Again, inundations of the *Thames* may be caused by boistrous North-west Winds, which cause generally very great Tides, not onely in the River of *Thames*, and at the mouth of it, but on the coast of *Holland*, *Flanders*, *Picardy*, and the shores of *England* opposite to them. And this is, because that wind doth with equal force blow in the Tide of flood at both the ends of this Island, Westward and Northward, as is partly touched before. But thirdly, there may be perad venture another cause of great Tides and inundations in the *Thames*, which is not yet commonly taken notice of; and that is, the Moons being in the *Perigeon* of her Eccentrick, or in that part of her Orb which is neareſt to the earth. For if (as we said before) the Moons coming nearer the earth at her Ful and Change, make the Spring-Tides, and her withdrawing her self farther from the Earth at her Quarters, make the neap-tides, methinks it should follow (but I would have it observed further) that if to the proximiority which the Moon hath to the earth by moving in her *Ellepsis*, there be added that proxiomiority which she hath in her Eccentrick (the Astronomers call it sometimes her *Opposite Auge*) she should operate so much the more extraordinarily upon the Sea, and make the higher Spring-Tides at such Ful or Change; and on the contrary, that when she is estranged from us by a double elongation, to wit, of the Quarter in her *Ellepsis*, and of her *Auge* in her Eccentrick, she should operate so much the more weakly

then

then ordinary, and at that quarter make a ſlack Neap. I have obſerved it ſomewhat my ſelf, and found it hit, ſo far as I was able to judge; but I dare not truſt my own ſingle obſervation, eſpecially becauſe I obſerved it not long, and never could ſo conſtantly as I ſhould. There reſts onely one doubt in this matter, which I profeſs I know not what to ſay to it; and that is, that the Moon comes down lower to the earth in her Eccentrick, then in her Ellepſis (pardon the oddneſs of the expreſſion, for I confeſs her Ellipſis is her Eccentrick) and yet her leſs approximations at the Ful and Change, make the great Tides, whereas her great Eccentrick approximations make leſs alterations in them without doubt, and (it may be) no alterations at all.

Laſtly, in the *Thames* there happens at ſome times ſtrange ſhifting of the Tides, which is vulgarly reckoned a great *Prodigy*, becauſe it happens but ſeldom; and yet I believe it hath a natural cauſe, as wel as other common effects, and would be as common as they, if its cauſe were as common. Now for the finding out the cauſe wee ſpeak of, we ſhal give you a Catalogue and Hiſtory of ſeveral of theſe ſhiftings that have happened, according to the relation of our Chronicles.

Octob. 12. 1411. the *Thames* flowed thrice in one day.

Anno 1550. *Decemb.* 17. being *Thurſday*, the *Thames* flowed and ebbed three times in nine hours below the Bridge. It ſhould have been either *Wedneſday* the 17*th*, or *Thurſday* the 18*th*.

The

The Historian was onely out in the day.

Anno 1564. *January* the 26. being *Friday* at night were two Tides in two hours, at *London*-Bridge. The next day were likewise two in the morning, and two at night. On *Sunday January* the 28. were two Tides in the morning, and at night but one (as it used to be) and so continued.

Anno 1574. *November* the 6. in the morning, there happened two great Tides at *London* in the *Thames*; the first by course, the other within an hour after, which overflowed the Marshes, with many Vaults and Sellers near adjoining.

Anno 1608, and 609. *February* the 19. being *Sunday*, it should have been dead low Water at *London-Bridge*, but then it was high Water, and presently it ebbed almost half an hour to a foot depth, and then suddenly it flowed again almost two foot higher then it did before, and then ebbed again til it came near the right course; so that the next flood began in a manner as it should, and so continued. All this (saith the *Chronicler*) happened before 12. of the clock at noon, the Weather being indifferent calm.

Anno 1609, & 10. *February* the 6. was strange shifting of the Tides in the *Thames* again.

Anno 1622. & 23. *January* the 3*d*. being *Friday* in the morning, the *Thames* shifted four Tides within five hours, *viz*. Two Floods, and two Ebbs, and then kept its right course. Thus far out of our Chronicles; to which I shal add two other instances that happened of late years. *Viz*.

Anno

Anno 1653. & 4. on *Candlemas* day the *Thames* ebbed and flowed thrice in six hours; and the like shifting of the Tides was observed in the Maritine places of *Kent* at the same time, as I was assured by many *Sea*-men.

Lastly, *Anno* 1656. *Octob.*3. the River of *Thames* ebbed and flowed twice in three hours. For this we are beholding to *C. Wharton's Gesta Britannorum*, in his Almanack.

Which instances if we particularly examine, we shall find, that in all of them the tides were very slack, and in a manner at the very neapest; and (which is not inconsiderable) that in all of them (except two, *viz.* 1574. and 1656. the Moon was in *Apogæo* about three or four days before the shifting, to make them (if possible) the more neap and slack. And in my Diary of observations for 1654. (in which year I was an exact observer of the Wind and Weather) I find against the second of *February*, and the days before and after it, 1653. & 54. that the Wind blew hard at Northwest. In all the other examples above-named, I cannot inform my self how the Wind was, no not in 1622. & 23. though *Kepler* hath set down the Weather for that year, because he hath said nothing at all of the wind. And in 1656. though I was an observer that year too; yet being in *October* afflicted with a fierce *Quartan*, which had seized me the *August* before, my observations for that Month are very imperfect, both as to Wind and Weather too; so that I am at a loss how the Winde was then. Nevertheless, by that little light we have from the

the example mentioned in 1653. & 54. I cannot but think that the cause of the shifting of the Tides is onely the overbearing of their course when they are at their slackest, by a North-west Wind, which is the most powerful Adversarie they can have upon our coasts, as is said before. For if a slow ebb be encountered ful in the teeth with a hard storm, what can follow but a return of the Tide back again? And if the North-west Wind either abate its fiercenes, or shift into some other quarters, as the South-west, or North-east for some short time, and then either return to its former place, or resume its former force, and do thus once, twice, and again, (which we know is not inconsistent with the nature and custom of the wind off at sea; though at Land its wanderings are not altogether so sensible) we shall easily believe (seeing so plain a reason for it) that there wil be a playing of the Tide to and fro, and several floods and ebbs succeeding one another in a few hours space. And it may be this shifting of the Tides is the more notable in the *Thames*, because of its gentle ebb to sea-ward, which is the more easily turned; whereas a swift Current in a River would prevail over these irregularities. But let further observation be made, how the Wind is disposed at the next shifting of the tides that happens, which (for some private reasons) I conceive will be in the next year, 1661. if not this Winter, 1660.

I forgot to say in its due place, that several great inundations speak in favour of my opini-

on touching the Moon in *Perigæo*, her greatnin
the Tides. For I can assure you, that for tha
great Flood *Anno* 1530. *November* 5. on whic
was made this Distich.

Anno ter deno cum sequi mille, Novembris
Quinta stat salsis Zelandia tota sub undis:

That in the year 1551. & 1552. *Janua*
the 13. that horrible one 1570. on *All-Sai*
day the first of *November*, and that notable o
in the year 1606. & 7. *January* the 20. the gre
est that was ever known in *Severn*, and so fa
to *Somersetshire*, *Glocestershire*, and *Monmouthshi*
they were all when the Moon was in *Perigæo*,
he that lists to calculate or search the *Epheme*
des for those years, wil find.

I have heard it reported, (but *I* would ha
further tryal made) that the water of the P
stern-spring on Tower-hill, being let stand
several days to settle, wil have in the bottom
it a yellow sediment, much resembling Bri
stone both in colour and substance.

ESSEX.

THE air of this ſhire is temperate, only towards the Sea it is aguiſh: The Soil is for the moſt part good, but in ſom parts ſo fruitful, that after three years Gleab of *Saffron* (which they plant much in the North part of the ſhire) the Land for 18. more wil yeeld plenty of *Barley*, without any dung or compoſt at all; and ſo *Saffron* again. Which *Saffron* (ſaith *Cambden*) in the month of *July* every third year, when the heads thereof have been plucked up, is after twenty days ſpitted, or ſet again under mould, and about the end of *September* it puts forth a blewiſh Flower out of the middle whereof hang three red chives of *Saffron*, which are gathered before ſunriſe, and being plucked out of the Flower, are dryed at a ſoft fire; every acre of ground making 80. or 100. weight of moiſt *Saffron*, which being dryed, is ſome twenty pound.

Near *Tilbury* (over againſt *Graveſend*) there are ſuch pits as thoſe ſpoken of before in *Kent*, of ten fathom deep in a chalky ground, and of the ſame form.

At the mouth of the *Thames* lyes the little Iſle of *Canvey*, the Mutton whereof is much commended for its ſweetneſs.

The ſalt-water about *Harwich* maketh all their ſprings brackiſh.

At *Barklow* (ſaith *Speed*) grows an Herb called *Dane-wort*, very plentifully, that beareth red Berries, which is held by the common people to ſpring from *Danes-blood*. This Herb is no other then that which *Herbariſts* called *Dwarf-Elder*; it grows in ſundry other places of *England*, as namely in the high-way between *Babchild* and *Greenſtreet*, at a place called *Radfield*, near *Sittingburn* in *Kent*.

Walfleet in this ſhire is commended for the excellent Oyſters it ſends to the City of *London*.

In the time of *Rich.* the 2*d* in the Eaſtern Promontory of this County, very huge teeth were found; and not far from thence in the reign of Qu. *Elizabeth*, extraordinary huge bones were digged up. They are thought to have been the bones and teeth of ſome Elephant buried there by their loving Maſters the Romans.

In the year 1580. at *Alhallantide*, an Army of Mice ſo over-run the Marſhes in *Denge-Hundred*, near *Southminſter*, that they eat up the Graſs to the very Roots, and ſo poiſoned it with their teeth, that a great Murrain fel upon the Cattle that grazed there. But at length a great number of ſtrange painted Owles came (no man knows whence) and devoured all the Mice. The like vexation was at the ſame time in *Kent*, ſaith *Stow*. It is reported, that in 1648. there happened the like again in *Eſſex*. But of this we have diſcourſed ſomewhat largely already in *Cornwall*.

SUFFOLK.

THis County is moſt of it Clay and rich Marl, and the air ſo good, that it is by ſome Phyſicians thought to be the beſt in *England*, eſpecially about *Bury*: It yeelds much Butter and Cheeſe; the Butter excellent good, but the Cheeſe far inferior to that of *Cheſhire*: It is thought (not without reaſon) that the goodneſs of the one, ſpoileth the other.

In the year 1555. (ſaith *Speed*) which was an unſeaſonable year, that the Corn through *England* was choaked and blaſted in the ear, ſuch a crop of *Peaſon* without tillage, or ſowing, grew in the Rocks between *Oxford* and *Aldbrough*, where never Graſs grew, or earth was ever ſeen, but hard Rocks three yards deep under their Roots, that in *Auguſt* there were gathered above a hundred quarters, and there remained as many more in bloſſoming. *Cambden* ſayes the ſame, but that the Peaſon grew about the end of *September*, and brought down the price of Corn, whereas before there was a great Dearth. query, whether there grow not Peaſon in the ſame place every year (though it may be in wet years, ſuch as 1555. proved in Harveſt, they grow up

more plentifully) becauſe *Herbariſts* ſay that they are a diſtinct ſort of Peaſe (differing from our common Garden and Field-Peaſe) and love to grow on ſuch deſert ſhores near the ſea ſide, as is ſaid before in *Kent* about *Sandwich* and *Dengeneſs*, where they grow every year, and never miſs.

Ralph Coggeſhall (an old Author) reports, that near *Oxford*, about the year 1187. a fiſh in all parts like a man, was taken and kept 6 months in the Caſtle there, whence he eſcaped again to ſea. *Stow* ſaith he was taken in a Fiſher-mans Net. A ſtory much like this we have in the life of *Pereskius*, written by the learned *Gaſſendus*, which compared with this, makes me give a little credit to that which *Pliny* reports, that a *Triton* or Man-fiſh was taken on the ſhore of *Portugal*, and that another was caught in the ſtreights of *Gibraltar*.

But I give not the like credit to the fable of *Nubrigenſis*, touching two green boys of the kind of Satyres, that ſhould riſe out of the ground at *Wulpit*, coming from the *Antipodes*.

Nur-

NORFOLK.

THis County hath a ſharp air, eſpecially in in the *Champian*, and near the Sea, and the Spring and Harveſt are late. The ſoil is in many places good, but it is generally Clayie, or a fat Chalk. And though it be healthy in ſome places, yet by compaſture of ſheep the heaths are made mighty rich for Corn; and when they are laid again from bearing of Corn, they yeild a ſweeter and more plentiful feed for ſheep. This County alſo yeilds good ſtore of Honey and Saffron; but the beſt [illegible] is about *Walſingham*.

The inhabitants of this Countrey (as *Cambden* relates) are obſerved to be naturally very capable of the niceties and quirks of the Law; and thoſe of them that bend their ſtudies that way, prove generally the beſt Lawyers. They are alſo (he ſaith) of a paſſing good complexion.

In the ſhore of this County every *September* is a great fiſhing for Herings, it being the nature of that Fiſh in great ſhoals to dance out once a year about our Iſland, and keep its due time & ſeaſon upon the ſame ſhores (unleſs its courſe

be a little retarded by ſtorms and foul weather) coming from the Sea into our narrow Seas by the North of *Scotland*, and going out again by the Lands end of *Cornwall*, and taking this ſhore in its way in *September*. It is reported, that Herings are no where more plentiful then on the coaſt of *England*.

The River *Bure* in this ſhire is incredibly full of fiſh. For the finding out the cauſe of this, enquiry ſhould be made what kind of ſoil the head ſprings iſſue from, and what kind of ſhore it waſhes. Generally the ſloweſt Rivers (*cæteris paribus*) are fulleſt of fiſh. And this I take to be one reaſon why the *Thames* is more piſculent, or ful of fiſh then the *Severn*.

The River *Yare* by *Norwich* is very full of a kind of fiſh called *Ruffes*, which (ſaith *Cambden*) have a body all over rough with ſharp & pricky fins. It de[illegible]s in ſandy places like the *Perch*, and is as [illegible] colour brown and duskiſh above, but o[illegible]paliſh yellow beneath: it is marked by the chaws with a double courſe of half circles; the eye for the upper half of it is of a dark brown; for the nether part of it ſomewhat yellowiſh, the ball of it black; and there is a line goes along the back, which is faſtened to the body as it were with an overthwart thred; it is all ſpotted over the tail and fins with black ſpeckles; when the fiſh is angry, the finnes ſtand up ſtiff; and after its anger is over, they fall flat again. It is a very wholeſom Fiſh, and eats tender and ſhort, and taſtes like a Perch. One cauſe of its tenderneſs I conceive to be its roughneſs without,

without, and the ſharp pricklineſs of its finnes. Even as it is probable that the tenderneſs of veniſon is cauſed by the ſeperation of ſo great a quantity of hard matter, as the hornes of the beaſt conſiſt of, from the Maſs of the body. This *Ruffe* is a very rare fiſh to be found in other Rivers. Query, whether the banks of Rivers that produce peculiar fiſh, do not produce peculiar plants, becauſe the peculiarity of the fiſh ſeems to proceed from a peculiar tincture of the Water, which it cannot have but from the earth.

St. *Bennets* in the *Holm* hath ſuch fenny and rotten ground about it, that (ſaith *Cambden*) if a man cut up the Roots or Strings of Trees, *&c.* it floteth aloft on the Water, and follows one whitherſoever he pleaſes. Hereabouts alſo are Cockles and Periwinkles ſometimes digged up out of the earth, which makes ſome think that formerly it was overflowed with the ſea.

The ground about *Winterton* (like that of *Bricatium* in *Africk*, mentioned by *Pliny*) is the richeſt, fatteſt, rotteneſt, and eaſieſt to plough of any in *England*.

Upon the ſhore of this ſhire Jeat and Amber are often found; and ſometimes Hawks are taken.

Cam-

Cambridgeſhire.

THis County by reaſon of the Fennes hath but a ſickly air. The ſoile yields very good Barly and good ſtore of Saffron.

The herb called *Scordium* (or *Water-Germander*) groweth very plentifully in the *Fenns*. Of this they make that well known Cordiall and Diaphoretick called *Diaſcordium*.

In the Country about the *Fenns* (ſaith *Speed*) water-Fowle is ſo plentifull and cheap, that five men may be wel ſatisfied with that kind of fare for leſs then a half-penny.

In the *Fenns*, when they have mowen their lid (as they call it) that is their graſs, which is exceeding ranke, as much as will ſerve their turns, they ſet fire on the reſt in *November*, that it may come up again in abundance. An Advertiſement for Graſiers in other Counties.

Hunting-

Huntingtonshire.

THe hilly part of this County is for the plough, and the valley for paſture, which is reckoned as good as any in *England.* The inhabitants burn much turfe, which they have in good plenty from the adjacent moors.

At *Ayleweſton* in this ſhire are two little Springs, the one freſh, the other ſomewhat brackiſh. The latter they ſay is good for Scabs and Leproſie: and the other for dim ſights.

Wittleſmere-lake, and other Meers near it in this Shire do ſomtimes in calme and fair weather, ſuddenly riſe tempeſtuouſly with water-quakes; by reaſon (as ſome think) of vapours breaking violently out of the earth. Which may well be, for the ground near it, is rotten and hollow.

The Natives that dwell about theſe Meers are heathfull, and live very long, but ſtrangers are ſubject to much ſickneſs.

Northam-

Northamptonshire.

THis County hath a wholesome air, and a very rich soile.

By *Collyweston* in this shire slate stones are digged.

The River *Nen* runs by the South side of *Peterborough*, in the middle of which (as *William* of *Swaffham* saith) is a gulfe so deep, and cold withall, that even in Summer no swimmer is able to dive to the bottom of it, yet it is never frozen in Winter; for there is a Spring, in it, whence the water always riseth and bubbleth up, and that keeps it from freezing.

Leicestershire.

THe air of this shire is mild and wholesome, and makes the inhabitants very healthfull, and long lived.

Near *Lutterworth* is a Spring so cold, that within a short time it turneth straw and sticks into stones.

In the North parts of the shire are store of Pit Coals, which are of the nature of hardned *Bitumen*, saith *Cambden*.

The

The people of *Carleton* (as both *Cambden* and *Speed* say) cannot pronounce their words wel, but all of them in a manner have an illfavoured untunable kind of Speech, fetching their words with much ado deep out of their throat, with a kind of wharling, whether it be by the nature of the soile or the water, or by some secret operation of nature. Thus say they, but I have heard from some that were this Country men, that it is *Breson* that is the Town of the Wharlers, and not *Carleton*.

In the Rocks about *Belvoir* Castle is sometimes found the Astroits or Star-stone, resembling little stars joined one to another, wherein are to bee seen at every corner five beams, and in every beam in the middle is small hollowness, The Astroites of *Germany* being put into Vinegar (saith *Cambden*) will move it selfe and turn round, but whether these of *Belvoir* will do so too or no, I never tried. I once saw an Astroite put into Vinegar, which moved according as *Cambden* would have it, but from whence it came, or where it was gathered I know not; onely I am sure it was none of those of *Lassington*, for it was bigger much then they, and not so much wrought.

At *Barrow* is digged the best Lime-stone in *England*, being extraordinary strong; Of which it may be was made the Morter that they used in building in times past, which was in a manner as hard as the stone it self, as appears in the walls of *Leicester* and other Cities at this day.

Nitting-

Notingham. & Rutlandshires

THe air of *Nottinghamſhire* is healthful; and the ſoile rich, being in ſome places clayie, and others ſandy.

In this ſhire are abundance of Pit Coals. Alſo

Here grows a ſtone ſofter then Alabaſter, which being burnt makes a Plaiſter harder then that of *Paris*; And with this they floor their upper rooms and when it is dry it becomes as hard as a ſtone.

At *Worksop* grows the beſt Liquorice in the parts of *England*.

In the Town of *Nottingham* are many rooms with the very Chimneys, Stairs, Windows, and the like, cut and hewen out of the Main ſolid Rock.

Rutlandſhire hath rich Land; but it is red, S that it ſtains the Wooll of thoſe Sheep that feed o it, into a reddiſh colour. The air is temperate wholeſome, and not ſubject to fogs.

Derby

Derbyshire.

THis shire (as most inland shires of *England*) hath a wholsome air, and in the South and East parts rich soile, but in the North and West hilly, with a black and mossy barren ground; Which two differing natures of soile are divided by the River *Derwent*. And this is in some places stained black with the soile and earth it passeth by.

The Town of *Derby* affords excellent Ale; which kind of drink *Turnebus* saith is more wholesome, and contributory to long life then Wine; and that it is this that makes many of us live 100 years. Yet *Asclepiades* in *Plutarch* saith, it is the cold climate that keeps in the naturall heat in our bodies, and makes us live 120 years. Thus saith *Cambden*. So much indeed is true, that within these 100 years (since the use of Beer hath increased among us, which was first known about the year 1524) we live not generally so great age as formerly.

This shire is well stored with Milstones, Crystal, Alabaster and Whetstone; And in the Peak with Pit Coal, Iron, & Lead; A metal which *France* wanteth.

The Peak hath under it in many places close to the upper crust of the earth, Limestone; which makes it so fruitful, that there be in it green grassie valleys, and hills, which bear full Oats, and feed abundance of Cattle and Sheep.

The

The Lead-ſtones in the Peak lye but juſt within the ground next to the upper cruſt of the earth. They melt the Lead upon the top of the hills that lye open to the Weſt wind; making their fires to melt it as ſoon as the Weſt wind begins to blow; which wind by long experience they find holds longeſt of all others. But for what reaſon I know not, ſince I ſhould think Lead were the eaſieſt of all metalls to melt, they make their fires extraordinary great.

In the Mines and Quarries in the Peak (ſaith *Cambden*) is ſometimes found a kind of white fluor very like Cryſtall.

There is *Stibium* found in certain veins of earth in this ſhire. And if ſo (*Speed* is mine Author for it) I wonder I hear of no medicinall waters near it. For I think *Newenham Regis* in *Warwick ſhire* is too far from it, and the waters of *Buxton* are not purgative, For

At *Buxton* nine Springs ariſe out of a rock within the compaſs of eight yards, eight of which are warm, and the ninth very cold. Theſe run from under a fair ſquare building of free ſtone, and about ſixty paces of receive another hot Spring from a Well encloſed with four flat ſtones; near unto which another very cold Spring bubbleth up. Theſe waters (as daily experience ſheweth) are good for the ſtomach and ſinews.

There is a Cave (ſaith *Speed*) called *Eldenhole*, where (it is confidently affirmed) the waters that trickle from the top of that Cave, which indeed is very ſpacious, but of a low & narrow entrance, do congeal into ſtone, and hang like Iſicles in the roof

in the roof; and ſome are hollow within, and grow Taperwiſe towards their points; very white and ſomething like Cryſtall.

In the Peak Forreſt, not far from *Buxton*, is a wel that ordinarily ebbs and flows four times in an hour, or thereabout, keeping his juſt tides.

Warwickshire.

THis Shire is commended much for the wholeſomeneſs of the air, eſpecially the Town of *Warwick*. The ſoile is very rich; eſpecially the Vale of Red Horſe, which hath a red Earth, and affords great plenty of Corn.

Here is alſo great ſtore of Wool and Iron; eſpecially about *Bromicham*.

At *Gofford-gate* in the Eaſt part of *Coventry* hangs the ſhield bone of a wild Bore, far bigger then the greateſt Oxe bone, (it is very likely to be an Elephants) with whoſe ſnout (as the tale goes, and you may believe it, if you pleaſe) the great Pit called Swainſwell was turned up.

At *Shugbury* are found the ſtones formerly mentioned in *Glouceſterſhire*, called Aſtroites, or Star-ſtones,

At *Lemington* a Salt Spring riſeth, though a great way off from the Sea.

At *Newenham-Regis* are three Fountains, which it ſhould ſeem, are ſtrained through a vein of Al-

lume. The water looks, and tasts like milk: it procures urine abundantly: it is very soveraign against the stone, and for green wounds, Ulcers, and Impostumes: Being drunk with Salt it loosens the body, but with Sugar binds it. It turneth wood into Stone (saith *Speed*) which I my selfe saw by some sticks, that were fallen into it, some part of them ash, some part of them stone.

Worcestershire.

THis is a very pleasant County, and fertile, especially the vale of *Evesham*. In some parts of it are many Salt Pits, and Salt Springs. It affords store of excellent Cheese. The hedge-rows, and high-ways are beset with Pear-trees, of which they make Perry, a very pleasant drink, but generally very cold and windy. But (saith *Cambden*) although the Pears be in such huge abundance, yet are they not so pleasing to the taste. Which if it be true, I much wonder at it. For certainly there is much reason to believe, that where fruit trees are planted in hedgerows and highways, their fruit should be better rellished, then fruit of the same kind planted in Orchards within the shade of other trees; because those in hedgerows lye more open to the Sun, and that heat, that must con-

concoct them to give them their true relish; though on the other side I deny not, that they are more subject to blasting winds.

The *Seavern* here affords great store of fresh water *Lampreyes*; they are (saith *Cambden*) like *Eeles* slippery and blackish; but under their bellies something blew: they have no gills, but let in the water at seven holes on each side of their throat: in the Spring they are sweetest, and most eatable; for in Summer the inner nerve, which serves them instead of a backbone waxeth hard. The *Italians* make a delicate dish of them, taking a *Lamprey*, and killing it in *Malmesey*: they close the mouth with a Nutmeg, and fill all the holes with as many cloves: then they roll it up, and put filberd-Nut-kernels stamped, crums of bread, oyle, Malmesey, and Spices to it, and so they boile it with great care, and then turn it over a soft gentle fire of Coals in a frying pan. *The reason why Seavern affords Lampreys I conceive is its muddiness, the Lamprey being a kind of Eele, that breeds and delights in mire. Other fish (as is before said) Seavern breeds not so plentifully, because as men thrive best in clear air, so fish in clear water; gross air choaking the one, and thick water the other.*

At *Droitwich* are three Fountains of Salt water divided by a little Brook of fresh water passing between; by the boiling of which Salt water they make pure white Salt. *Gervase* of *Tilbury* (an Historian not rashly to be credited) saith, that these salt Springs are most salt between Christmas and Midsummer; and that the rest of the year they are somewhat fresh, and not so good to make

Salt of; and that when the Salt water is run sufficiently for the use of the Country, the Springs do scarce overflow to any waste; and that at the greatest Saltness of it, it is not allayed by the nearness of the fresh water to it; and lastly, that it is found no where near the Sea. *Cambden* doubts the truth of some of these affirmations, but of which he saith not: Onely he saith, that the Salt is made from Midsummer to Midwinter, which is quite contrary to *Gervase* Indeed if there be any difference in the saltness of these waters in severall times of the year, they should I think, be fresher from Christmas to Midsummer; because that half year all Springs (but land Springs) are highest, & run most plentifully, by reason of the great wet season immediately foregoing, which must therefore more dilute the salt. And on the contrary the Springs between Midsummer and Christmas must be the lower, because of the drought just preceding. I have heard Masons in *Kent*, that used to dig wells, say, that the Springs that feed their wells, are lowest about *Alhollantide*, and highest between Easter and Whitsuntide, for the very same reason I could wish some ingenuous native would bestow upon us, the perfect History of these Salt Springs in *Worcestershire*, and *Cheshire*. Some Philosophers trouble themselvs much about the cause of the Saltness of the Sea. I think it needs not so much puzzle and ado. If there be salt Springs that run continually into the Sea, and no part of the saltness of the water (but that which is meer fresh) ascend in vapour at the Sun call, why should not the Sea be, and continue salt

Ther

There would rather be more fear, leſt the Sea ſhould grow ſalter and ſalter, by theſe Springs continually running into it, but that the *Salinæ* on ſeverall ſhores of the world do rob it every day, beſides other loſſes it ſuſtains, and eſcapes that it makes through private paſſages in the earth.

There is a report of a medicinall Water found out lately about *Eckington*-Bridge, about 7 miles from *Worceſter*.

Staffordshire.

THe air of this ſhire is very healthfull, yet in the North parts and Moreland it is very ſharp, the wind blowing cold, and the ſnow lying long. It affordeth good ſtore of Alabaſter, Iron, Pit-Coale (which is thought to be the *Lapis Obſidianus* of the Ancients, if it be at all in *England*, for it is hard, bright, light, and eaſie to be cloven in flakes, and being once kindled it burns away very quickly.) And Fiſh, whereof the River of *Trent* is full. The meadows of this ſhire are ſo moiſtned with ſtreams and rivers running by them, that they look green in the middle of winter.

In *Penſneth-Chaſe* is a Coal-Pit, which (ſaith *Cambden*) was ſet on fire by a Candle through the negligence of a digger, the ſmoak of it is commonly ſeen, and ſometimes the flame.

In this ſhire there runs a hill a long, and ſo through the middle of *England* as far as *Scotland*, like the *Apennine* in *Italy*.

In this ſhire they manure their land with Limeſtone.

The people about *Wotton* by *Wolverhil* in *Moreland* obſerve, that when the wind ſets Weſt, it always produces rain; but the Eaſt and South wind, which elſewhere brew and bring rain, here bring fair weather; unleſs the wind turn from the Weſt into the South; and this they aſcribe to the nearneſs of the Iriſh Seas. This obſervation I fear is ſomewhat imperfect, and ſhould be driven a little further by men able to make obſervation.

If the River *Dove* overflow its banks, and run into the adjoyning meadows in *Aprill*, it makes them extream fruitfull. The reaſon of this is plain enough without further enquiry. Indeed ſome Rivers overflowing their banks enrich more, and others leſs, according to the fatneſs or hungryneſs of their water.

The River *Dove* uſes to riſe extreamly within twelve hours ſpace, but it will within the ſpace of twelve hours return again within its banks: but *Trent* being once up, and over its banks, flows over the fields four or five days together, ere the ſuperfluous waters can get away. Of this we have given an account already, ſpeaking of the *Thames* and *Seavern*.

The little River *Hans* runs under ground for three miles together.

Cambden ſaith that *Necham* ſpeaks of a Lake in *Staffordſhire* (but where it is he cannot tell) that

fore

foreſhews things to come by its roaring, and no wild beaſt will enter into it; but he thinks it is but a Fable. And

Gervaſe of *Tilbury* tells us of another Lake in this ſhire, called *Mahall*, near a village called *Magdalea*, which if hunters when they and their horſes are tired do drink of, and give their horſes of it, though it be in the hotteſt, and moſt ſcorching weather; they both become preſently as freſh, as if they had not run at all. Likely to be as true as the former.

Lincolnshire.

IN this Shire upon the Eaſt and South parts the air is thick and foggy becauſe of the *Fennes*, &c. yet very moderate and mild; and the winds, that come from the raging Seas diſperſe thoſe vapours, that they cannot much hurt. The North and Weſt part of the ſhire is fruitfull, but the Eaſt and South are brackiſh and fenny, yet extra-

traordinary full of *Fish* and Sea-fowl; especially *Mallards*, which they take in *August* with nets.

This Shire yieldeth Flax and Alabaster, and Plaister, which I think is that they call *Plaster* of *Paris*, or of that kind.

The ground about *Crowland* is so rotten, that one may thrust a Pole into it thirty foot deep. Also

The ground in *Holland* (apart of this shire so called) is so wet, that as one stands upon it, the earth will shake under his feet, and hee will bee ready to sink into it; Nor shall you beside the paved Causeys meet with somuch as a little stone in it. Here are also many quicksands, which have a wonderfull force both to draw to them, and to hold fast that which they have drawn. Moreover the people here have no fresh water, but only rain water, and that in pits. Which if they be deep, becomes brackish presently; And if they be shallow they dry up as soon.

About *Barton* upon *Humber* are abundance of *Pewits*, *Godwits*, *Knots*, (which are so called from *Cnute* the *Dane*, and are thought to have flown hither out of *Denmark*) and *Dottrells*, a simple kind of bird, much given to imitating. These *Dottrells* are caught by Candle light in this manner. The Fowler stands before the bird, and if hee put out an arm, the bird stretcheth out a wing: If hee holds out his head, or set forward his leg, the bird doth

doth the like, and imitates the Fowlers gesture so long, till the Fowler drawing nearer and nearer by degrees, at length throws his net over him, and takes him.

In the Isle of *Axholme*, grows a sweet kind of Shrub, called *Galls*, as also *Pets* in the *Moores*, (I know not what that is) and dead roots of *Firre* wood, which in burning give a rank sweet smell. Further there have been great and long *Firre* Trees found both in this Island, and at *Laughton* upon *Trent*: Also there is in this Isle much Flax and Alabaster; But the Alabaster is more fit for Plaister then any thing else, because it is brittle.

Shropshire.

THis County (saith *Speed*) hath wholesome temperate air, affording health to the inhabitants at all seasons of the year. This was verified in old *Thomas Parre* of *Alberbury*, who was 152 years old, and dyed in the year 1635. The soile is generally fertile, standing most upon reddish clay, and yields Pit Coals and Iron.

At

At *Wenlock* in the time of *Richard* the second was found a rich Mine of Copper.

Upon *Clechill* grows the best Barley in the shire.

At *Pitchford* is a Well (or Spring) in a private mans yard, whereon floweth a thick skum of liquid *Bitumen*; which being cleared and taken off one day, will have the like again on the morrow. Try (saith *Cambden*) whether this *Bitumen* bee good for the falling sickness, and have a powerfull property to draw and close up wounds, as that in *Judæa* is known to have. There is the like swimming of *Bitumen* in that lake in *Judæa* we speak of, called *Asphaltites*, supposed to be the place where *Sodom* and *Gomorha* stood; as also in a standing water about *Samosata*, and in a Spring by *Agrigentum* in *Sicily*.

Where the plot of the City *Wroxceſter* lay, the earth is more blackish then elsewhere, and bears very good Barley.

In the year 1551. *Aprill* the 15. the English sweating sickness brake forth first at *Shresbury* and so dispersed it self over the whole land, and killed abundance, especially middle-aged people. The first time of this sweating sickness was in the year 1485, saith *Cambden*, a little after a great *Conjunction* of the Superiour Planets in *Scropio*. The second time (but more mildly, yet the Plague accompanied it) was *Anno* 1518, being 33 years after it, upon a great *Opposition* of the same Planets in *Scorpio* and *Taurus*, when it also plagued the *Netherlands*, and high *Germany* too. And the 3 time was 33 years after that again, *viz.* *Anno* 1551. the

yea

year now spoken of, when another *Conjunction* of those Planets in *Scorpio* took its effects, but we must crave leave to tell *Cambden*, that his pretended revolution of 33 years is not so; for the middle sweat was not in 1518, as he affirms it, but in 1517 as both *Godwin* and *Stow* tell us; though we confess, the Plague was in 1518. So that then there will be instead of 33 and 33, 32 and 34. And that which will do this revolution more mischief is, that there was a fourth sweat between the years 1517 and 1551, *viz.* *Anno* 1528, which *Cambden* never mentions; besides another fift sweat, that (if I be not mistaken) happened before 1517. Moreover whereas *Cambden* saith, that the sweat 1485 was a little after a great *Conjunction* of the superiour Planets in *Scorpio*, if by the superiour Planets he mean all the three, *Saturn*, *Jupiter* and *Mars*; that was not so. For neither did *Saturn* *Jupiter* *Mars* meet in the same degree of *Scorpio*, nor were all the three *Conjunctions*, which these three Planets made at that turn in *Scorpio*. It is true indeed the *Conjunction* of *Saturn*, & *Mars*, was in *Scorpio*, about the 12*th* degree; but it was in *November* 1483, almost 2 years before that sweat which began in *September* 1485; And the *Conjunction*, of *Saturn*, & *Jupiter* was in *Scorpio* too, about the 20*th* degree, but that was almost a year before the sweat too, *viz.* about *Allhollanday* 1484: But as for the *Conjunction*, of *Saturn*, & *Mars*, that fell not in *Scorpio*, but about the 25 degree of *Libra*, and about *Allhollandtide* 1483, not far distant from the time of the *Conjunct.* of *Saturn*, & *Mars*; so that the sweat was neither after a *Conjunction* of the superiour

riour Planets in *Scorpio*, nor a little after any Conjunction of them. Again, neither was the swea 1517. upon a great *Opposition* of the same Planets in *Scorpio* and *Taurus*, for the oppositions o *Saturn* and *Jupiter*, which happened in *Taurus* and *Scorpio*, were all three of them in 1513. and 1514. and so was the opposition of *Jupiter* and *Mars* in *Taurus* and *Scorp.* in *Novemb.* 1513. about the first degree of those two signs. And for the opposition of *Saturn* and *Mars*; and conjunction of *Saturn* and *Mars*, which we grant happened both in one year, and during *Saturn* his abode in *Scorp.* too, they both fell in 1513. the one in *March*, and the other in *December* following. Nor let it startle any one that a conjunction o *Saturn* and *Mars*, and opposition of *Saturn* and *Mars*, should happen both, during *Saturn* his being in *Scorpio*; for those that know any thing in *Astronomy*, must needs know that *Saturn* never passeth through any sign (no not *Gemini* where he moveth swiftest, because in *Perihelio*) but *Mars* gives him a conjunction and opposition constantly, before he can get out of it; nay sometimes he gives him two conjunctions, and sometimes three, beside the opposition, especially if he be near his *Aphelium*, as he is in *Scorpio* and yet now he did not. Nor lastly, let any man start at the three oppositions of *Saturn* and *Jupiter*, that happened in 1513. and 1514. for all *Astronomers* know, that it is a very rare thing (or rather impossible) for an opposition of *Saturn* and *Jupiter* to happen single, they happening constantly every twenty years, and as constantly

by threes, of which the reason is plain to any ersed in Calculations. So that it remains, that e Sweat 1517. neither followed upon such an pposition of the Planets, nor near it. Lastly, hereas he sayes, that the Sweat 1551, was when nother conjunction of those Planets in *Scorpio*, ok its effects, this is wider from the truth en all the rest; for there was no conjunction the Superiors within six years of this Sweat: or example, the conjunction of *Saturn* and *Jupiter* in 28. of *Scorpio*, happened in *September* 1544 nd the conjunction of *Jupiter* & *Mars*, happened the 27. deg. of *Scorpio*, in *January* 1543, and 44. nd for conjunctions of *Saturn* and *Mars* in *corpio*, there happened none that year, (for the onjunction of *Saturn* and *Mars* that was, fell the beginning of *Sagitarius*) though we conss there fell (to admiration) three conjunctins of *Saturn* and *Mars* in *Scorpio*, in the yeare 542. (A very rare thing indeed, such a triple onjunction of those Planets having never happned since till the year 1640.) But how Conunctions should work seven or nine years after eir celebration, and not before, is a secret in *strology* that I yet understand not. In the year 532. was indeed a very great opposition of *Saurn*, *Jupiter*, and *Mars* in *Taurus* and *Scorpio*, the o Malevolents in *Scorpio*, opposing *Jupiter* in *aurus*, the conjunction and two oppositions ppening very near together; yet there happned in the years following, no such sweat as pretended to be the effect of such conjunctins and oppositions; so that the Astrological

cause

cause of those contagious sweats lyes yet in the darke. I would adventure something toward it here, but that it requires a distinct Treatise by it self. *Fracastorius* attributes this sweating sickness to the Plaistrines of the soil here in *England*, (and yet it is so but in few places) and to the moistnes of the weather in those years; but why it doth not reign constantly in such kind of soil in wet years, he saith not. *Cambden* thinkes that this contagion hath been long before 1485 as rife in *England* as since, although it be not mentioned by Historians; that is not impossible indeed, for for that last Age wherein *Saturn* and *Jupiter* did use to meet in *Scorpio*, our Chronicles are very empty and uncertain.

Eclipses of the *Sun* in *Aries* (saith *Cambden*) have been most dangerous to *Osweſtry*; for in the year 1542, and 1567. when the Eclipses of the *Sun* in *Aries*, wrought their effects, it suffered great loss by fire; but most of all after this latter Eclips; for there were then about two hundred houses burnt. A good observation indeed, but our Author observed not all; for that which is most remarkable is, that those two Eclipses happened within two degrees one of the other, so that it may be the *Ascendent* of *Osweſtry* (as *Astrologers* speak) is about the 27. deg. of *Aries*. And peradventure the reason why the late Eclipse of the *Sun* in *Aries*, *viz.* 1652. *March* 29. had no influence upon *Osweſtry*, was because it happened in the 19. deg. of *Aries*, 8. deg. distant from its *Ascendent*. This is further observable, (and it looks as if there were something in it) that

hat in 1567. when *Oſweſtry* was burnt, *Milnall* n *Suffolk* was burnt too; and that though the eclipſe in *Aries* 1652. had nothing to do with hem (perhaps for the reaſon above given) yet ithin the time (that *Aſtrologers* limit the effects f Eclipſes) two Towns in the ſame Shires, *viz.* ungay in *Suffolk*, and *Drayton* in *Shropſhire*, were urnt; as if there were a way to trace *Aſcendents* om one Town to another, and as if the *Aſcen-nts* of near places were not far aſunder. But *hil temere ſtatuendum de ſaucis*; enquire farther, nd ſee what I have written in my *Syzygiaſticon ſtauratum*, (publiſhed *Anno* 1653.) where I have eated of the *Aſcendents* of Towns in general, nd of the *Aſcendent* of *Teverton* in *Devonſhire* in rticular. Query alſo, whether in *February*, 55. 56. any thing extraordinary happened to e Town of *Oſweſtry*, upon the conjunction of piter and *Mars*, in 25. degrees of *Aries*.

CHESHIRE,

THe air of this Shire is ſo healthful, tha the Inhabitants generally live very lon And the warm vapors riſing from the riſh Seas, do ſooner melt the ſnow and ice in th County, then in places further off. The ſoil very rich, yet obſerved to be more kindly ar natural for Cheeſe, then Corn; and it is thoug that it is the ſoil, and not the skill of the Dair Woman, that makes the Cheeſe ſo excellent, t beſt in *Europe*. Both men and women here, ha a general commendation for beauty and hand ſome proportion. This ſhire (ſaith *Speed*) yi deth Salt, Metals, Mines, and Meres.

In the River *Dee* is great plenty of Salmon *Giraldus Cambrenſis*, who lived about the yea 1200. ſaith, that this *River* foreſhewed a ſure to ken of Victory to the inhabitants living upo it, when they were in open hoſtility one ſhore gainſt the other, according as it inclined mo to this ſide, or to that, after it had left th Channel. And the relator doth in ſome ſort be lieve it, and ſo may any one elſe if he pleaſe.

This River *Dee* upon the fall of much Ra riſeth but little; but as often as the ſouth-win be

beats long upon it, it ſwells and overflows the grounds adjoining extremely. This River is a very ſtreight and broad river to ſea-ward, ſo that what rain falls, hath an eaſie and quick paſſage out. But if the South-wind blow long, the River muſt needs ſwell much, becauſe no wind hath ſo much power on the *Iriſh* ſeas, as that, becauſe it blows right in upon it between the coaſts of *Wales* and *Ireland*, and muſt needs ſwell and roll it ſo much the more, for that it brings the ſea ſtill in, which having not ſo free a paſſage quite through by reaſon of the narrow ſtreight between *Scotland* and the North of *Ireland*, ſtill returns back, where it meets with a freſh ſupply of Waters continually coming in: Now the *Iriſh* ſea thus ſwelling, will have eaſie and ready admiſſion into a ſtreight River.

In the low places on the ſouth ſide of *Cheſhire*, by the River *Wever*, Trees are oftentimes found by digging under ground, which people think have lien buried there ever ſince *Noah's* Flood.

Nantwich, *Northwich*, and *Middlewich*, are the famous Salt-pits of this Shire, being 5. or 6. miles aſunder. The whiteſt Salt is made at *Nantwich*, which (ſaith *Cambden*) hath but one Pit about ſome 14. foot from the River, out of which they conveigh Salt-Water by troughs of Wood into the Houſes adjoining, where there ſtand little barrels pitched faſt in the ground; which they fill with the Water, and then make fire under the Leads, whereof they have ſix in a houſe, and in them they ſeeth the Water. Then with

little wooden rakes they fetch up the Salt from the botom, and put it in baskets, out of which the Liquor runs, and the pure salt remains. The Salt pit at *Northwich* is very near the brink of the River *Dan*, being a very deep and plentiful pit. Quære, whether the Rivers *Wever* and *Dan* be themselves salt at these two places. The two salt Wells at *Middlewich*, are parted one from the other by a small brook of fresh Water.

It is reported, that there are Trees that flote in *Bagmere*, (a Mere so called, near the seat of the Family of the *Breretons*) against the death of any of the heirs of the *Breretons*; and after the heir is dead, they sink, and are never seen more till the next occasion. *Cambden* saith, that this story is verified upon the credit of many credible persons; and that these bodies of trees swim for certain dayes together, and may be seen of any body: And he seconds it with another story to this purpose. *Leonardus Vairus* (saith he) reports from the testimony of Cardinal *Gravel*, that near the Abbey of St. *Maurice* in *Burgundy*, is a Fish-pond, into which are fishes put according to the number of the *Monks* of that place, and if any one of them happen to be sick, there is a fish seen also to flote about him above the water half dead: And if the *Monk* shall dye, the said fish will dye too, some few days before him. Thus *Cambden*: who gives so much credit to these stories, that he thinks they are the Works of Angels. But so doth not *Speed*, who thinks it to be but a conceit, and a fable; as he doth also the propheſie of *Leyland* concerning

ning *Beeston* Castle mounted upon a steep hill? The Castle being ruinated, *Leyland* propheſied of it in his time, (thus) that it ſhould be re-edified.

The day ſhall come when it again ſhall mount his head aloft;
If I a Prophet may be heard, from Seers that ſay ſo oft.

Whether *Leylands* Propheſie have proved true ſince, I know not; but ſo much is true, that in the late Wars *Beeston* Caſtle was a Garriſon. *Prophets generally are very compaſſionate to the rubbiſh of ſtately Piles, and the Elegies they commonly ſing at their fall, are Propheſies of their re-edifying, becauſe they ſee men generally willing to believe what they would have, though improbable; nay, though impoſſible. And this I think was the true original of that late Propheſie among the* Welch, *that* Ragland *Caſtle ſhal be built again.*

I will not undertake to tell you the cauſe of the floting of thoſe Trees in *Bagmere*, becauſe there are ſeveral circumſtances that render it very dark. Onely obſerve, that in this ſhire (as is ſaid) bodies of Trees are often times digged out of the ground.

July the 8th. being *Wedneſday* 1657. about three of the clock, in the pariſh of *Bickley*, was heard a very great noiſe like Thunder afar off, which was much wondred at, becauſe the skye was clear, and no appearance of a Cloud. Shortly after (ſaith the Author of this relation) a neigh-

bour comes to me, and told me I should see a very strange thing, if I would go with him. So coming into a field called the *Layfeild*, we found a very great bank of earth which had many tall Oakes growing on it, quite sunk under the ground, Trees and all. At first we durst not go near it, because the earth for near twenty yards round about, is exceeding much rent, and seems ready to fall in; but since that time my self and some others by Ropes have ventured to see the bottom, I mean, to go to the brink, so as to discern the visible bottom, which is Water, and conceived to be about 30. yards from us, under which is sunk all the earth about it for sixteen yards round at least, three tall Oaks, a very tall Awber, and certain other small Trees, and not a sprig of them to be seen above water. Four or five Oaks more are expected to fall every moment, and a great quantity of Land is like to fall, indeed never ceasing more or less; and when any considerable clod falls, it is much like the report of a Canon. We can discern the ground hollow above the Water a very great depth; but how far hollow, or how deep, is not to be found out by man: Of this we have said somewhat in *Kent*. Some of the water, (as I have been told) was drawn out of this pit with a bucket, and they found it to be as salt as sea-water; whence some imagine, that there are certain large passages there, into which the sea flows under ground; but I rather think, that this salt water is no more but that which issues from those salt springs about *Nantwitch*, and other places in this shire

ſhire. Query, whether thoſe Trees that are before ſaid to be digged up in ſome places hereabout, were not buried in the earth by ſome ſuch ſinking as this, I am told, that about *Bickley* the ſoil is a very foul miry clay, that there is hardly any travelling that way in the winter time. If ſo, I conceive then, that under this upper Clay lyes a mouldring waſhy Clay, or Sand, which is carried away by degrees by the courſe of Springs (as we ſaid before of *Motingham*) and that this *July* being the dryeſt part of Summer, and this Summer 1657. being an extreem hot and dry Summer, (the hotteſt and dryeſt I ever knew) this Clayie ground did chap (as it is the nature of Clay to do in dry hot weather, eſpecially the moſt rotten and miry Clay, as we ſee in Marſhes) and divide it ſelf from the reſt of the ground near it, to which, and to its fall, the hollowneſs underneath, and the weight of the tall Oaks above did much contribute.

Nor-

Herefordshire.

THE air is very wholsome, and the soil of this shire exceeding rich for Corn.

About *Lemster* is the finest Wool of *England*, though it be not so fine as that of *Aquila* and *Tarentum* in *Italy*. It is likewise famous for the purest Wheat, as *Weabley* is for the best Ale.

By *Snodhill* Castle is a quarry of excellent Marble.

Not far from *Richards* Castle, is a Well called *Bone-well* wherein are continually found little Fishes bones, (yet *Cambden* thinks they may be Frogs bones) but there is not a Fin to be seen; and being wholly cleansed thereof, wil yet have the like again. But (saith *Speed*) no man can tell whether they are produced naturally, or brought thither in veins.

In the year 1571. *Marcley hill* in the East part of the shire, with a roaring noise removed it self from the place where it stood, and for three days together travelled from its old seat. It began first to take its journey, *February* the 17*th*. being *Saturday* at six of the clock at night, and by seven of the clock the next morning it had gone fourty paces, carrying with it sheepe in their cotes

cotes, hedge-rows, and Trees, whereof ſome were overturned, and ſome that ſtood upon the plain, are firmly growing upon the hill. Thoſe that were Eaſt, were turned Weſt, and thoſe the Weſt were ſet in the Eaſt. In this remove it overthrew *Kinnaſton* Chappel, and turned two High-wayes near a hundred yards from their old pathes The ground that thus removed was about 26. acres, which opening it ſelfe with Rocks and all, bore the earth before it for four hundred yards ſpace, without any ſtay, leaving Paſturage in place of the Tillage, and the Tillage overſpread with Paſturage. Laſtly, overwhelming its lower parts, it mounted to an hill of twelve fathoms high, and there reſted after three dayes travel. *Cambden* thinks this was that kind of Earth-quake which Philoſophers call *Braſmatias*.

Brecknockshire.

THree miles from *Brecknock* is a hill called *Mounch-denny*, that hath its top above the clouds; and if a cloak, hat, or staffe or the like be thrown from the top of it, it will never fall, but be blown up again; nor will any thing descend but stones, or metalline substance, or things as heavy.

On the very top of the hill called *Cadier Arthur* riseth a Spring which is deep like a Well, and four square, having no streams issuing from it, and yet there are Trouts found in it.

Two miles East from *Brecknock* is a Meer called *Llynsauathan*, which (as the people dwelling there say) was once a City, but the City was swallowed up by an Earthquake, and this water (or lake) succeeded in the place. They say likewise that at the end of Winter, when after a long frost the ice of this lake breaks, it makes a fearful noise like thunder. Peradventure it is, because the lake is encompassed with high steep hills, which pen in in the sound, and multiply it, or else the ground may be hollow underneath, or near the lake. Through this lake there runs a River called *Leven* without mixture of its waters, as may be perceived

ceived both by the colour of the water, and also by the quantity of it, because it is no greater then when it entred the lake. The non-mixture of two waters, doth doubtless proceed from nothing else, but the oilinesse of the one, and the acidity, (or if you will have it) the acetosity of the other Water; for we see that oil and vinegar will not mix.

Radnorshire.

THis Shire hath sharp and cold air, because of the Snow lying long unmelted under the shady hills, and hanging Rocks, whereof there are many.

Montgomeryshire.

THis shire bred excellent horses in times past. There is nothing else rare, or observable here for our purpose.

Mon-

Monmouthshire.

THis County hath good air, but bad ways.

The two Rivers of *Uske* and *Wye* are full of *Salmons* and *Trouts*. And they say, that when the *Salmons* grow out of season in the one River, they come in season in the other. But in which of the two it is that *Salmons* are in season from *September* till *April*, (which is the ordinary and general time for *Salmons*) I cannot learn, though the thing it self be averred by men of the Countrey.

The River *Wye* at *Chepstow*, riseth every Tide to a great heigth; Of the cause of it we have already said something.

At *Lanthony* Abbey (saith *Cambden*) the rain, which the Mountains breed, falls very often; the Wind blows strong, and all the Winter almost it is continually cloudy and misty; yet there are seldom any diseases there; and the grosser the air is, the milder it is.

The Moor or Marsh near *Chepstow*, suffered great loss in *January* 1606, For when the *Severn* sea (saith *Cambden*) at a spring-tide upon the Change of the Moon was partly driven back for three dayes together with a south-wind, and partly with a very strong pirry from the

the Sea troubling it, it swelled so high, that it came rushing in a main upon the tract lying so low, and also upon the like flats in *Somersetshire* over against it, and overflowed all, overthrowing houses, and drowning cattle and some people. We have already said that this flood happened when the Moon was in *Perig.* not that we exclude the change of the Moon, and the convenient fitting of the wind to be the joint causes in the effect. We onely would say, that more causes greaten the effect.

On *Gold-cliff* are yellow stones of a golden colour, and glittering by the reflection of the Sunbeams, which hath made some suspect, that there might be a mine there.

Merlin prophesied, that when a stout Prince with a freckled face should passe over the Ford called *Rydpencarn*, being in a River called *Nantpen-carn*, the *Welch* should be subdued. Which accordingly came to passe, for *Henry* the second, who passed over this Ford, was freckle faced; And as soon as the *Welch* men heard where the King came over, their hearts failed them, because of this prophesie; and so they submitted, through too much credulity, saith *Cambden*. It is not impossible, that King *Henry* might choose to go over at this Ford, because of the prophecy, and his enemies credulity, the more to facilitate his conquests,

Gla-

Glamorganſhire.

THis ſhire hath a temperate air, and is generally the pleaſanteſt part of all *Southwales*.

On the top of a certain hill called *Minyd-morgan* is a monument with a ſtrange character, which the dwellers thereabouts ſay, if any man read the ſame, he will dye ſhortly after. *This is not improbable; for if a chid of three months old read the three firſt verſes of* Homers Illiads, *I am confident hee will not live three dayes to an end.*

Upon the River *Ogmore*, and near unto *Newton* in a ſandy plain, about one hundred paces from *Severn* ſprings a Well; the water whereof is not very clear, in which at full Sea (in the Summer time) can hardly any water be gotten, but at the ebbe of the tide it bubbleth up amain. In Summer time I ſay, for in Winter the ebbing and flowing is nothing ſo evident, becauſe of the veins of water coming in by ſhowers or otherwiſe. Beſides it is obſerved, that this ſpring never riſeth up to the brink, or overfloweth. *Polybius* ſaith the ſame of a certain Well at *Cadiz*.

Clemens

Clemens Alexandrinus ſaith, that in Britain is a Cave under the bottome of a hill, and on the top of it a gaping chink. And when the wind is gathered into that hole, and toſſed to and fro in the womb of it, there is heard as it were a muſicall ſound, like that of Cymballs. It is moſt likely that he ſpeaks of the Cave at *Aberbarry* in this ſhire, the ſtory agreeing very near with the quality of the Cave. It is mentioned by the Lord *Verulam* in his Hiſtory of the winds, to this effect. In a certain rocky cliffe, in which there are holes, if a man lay his ear to them, he ſhall hear diverſe noiſes, and rumbling of winds under the earth. Theſe noiſes *Cambden* ſaith, are to be heard as well at the loweſt ebb, as the higeſt flood.

Pembrokeſhire.

THis ſhire hath a good, temperate, and wholeſome air. The ſoile yields Pit Coal, and Marle.

It appeareth by *Giraldus Cambrenſis*, that the *Flemmings* that inhabited this ſhire in his time were very skilfull in ſooth-ſaying, by looking into beaſts inwards.

In the Rocks in this ſhire there breeds a rare kind of *Falcon*, which is thus deſcribed. The head is flat and low, the feathers laid in rows, the legs pale and wan, the claws ſlender, and wide ſpread, and the bill ſoaked round.

About 300 years ago it is reported, that for 5 generations the Father of the Family in the Earledome of *Pembroke* (their name was *Haſtings*) never ſaw his ſon.

At the time when *Henry* the ſecond made his abode in *Ireland* were extraordinary violent, and laſting ſtorms of wind and weather, ſo that the ſandy ſhore on the coaſt of this ſhire was laid bare to the very hard ground, which had lien hid for many ages. And by further ſearch the people found great Trunks of Trees, which when they had digged up, they were apparently lopped, ſo that

that one might see the stroaks of the Axe upon them, as if they had been given but the day before. The earth looked very black, and the wood of these Trunks was altogether like *Ebony*.

At the first discovery made by these storms, the Trees (we speak of) lay so thick, that the whole shore seemed nothing but a lopped grove. Whence may be gathered, that the Sea hath overflowed much land on this coast; As it hath indeed on the shores of many Countries bordering upon the Sea, which is to be chiefly imputed to the ignorance of the *Britans* and other barbarous Nations, who were long without the knowledge of Arts, and understood not those ways to repress the fury of the Sea, which now we do. For without doubt since the knowing age of the World the Sea hath not gained upon the land one quarter of that it did before.

About *Kilgarran* are abundance of *Salmons* taken, and there is a place called the *Salmons* leap; as there is the like also in other Rivers for this reason. The *Salmon* coveteth to get into fresh water Rivers to spawn; and when he comes to places where the water falls down right from some high places (and some such places there be in many Rivers) he useth this policy. He bends himself backward, and takes his tail in his mouth, and with all his force unlooseing his circle on a sudden (like a lath let go) he mounteth up before the fall of the stream. And therefore these downright falls (or little Catarracts) of water are called the *Salmons* Leap.

In the Isle of *Scalmey* grows abuudance of wild Thyme.

Car-

Cardiganshire.

AT the head of the River *Iſtwyd* are ſome Veins of Lead found.

In the River *Tivy* in times paſt, the *Beaver* (or *Caſtor*) hath been found; but now they can find none of them. The *Beaver* is an amphibious creature, that is, lives indifferently in the Water, and on the Land. His fore-feet are like a dogs, but the hinder feet are whole-skinned, like thoſe of a Gooſe. His dog-feet ſerve him aſhore to run, and his Geeſe-feet in the Water to ſwim. His tail is broad and griſtly, which he uſeth as a ſtern to direct and turn his courſe: His skin is aſh-coloured, ſomewhat inclining to blackiſh. It is a very ſubtil creature.

The Chronicles report, that while *David Menevenſis* Biſhop of St. *David's*, refuted the *Pelagian* Hereſie at *Llan-devi-brevi*, the earth whereon he ſtood and preached, roſe up by Miracle to a certain height under his feet.

Carr-

Caermardenshire.

THis ſhire (as moſt hilly Countreys) hath a wholeſome air. The ſoil is not ſaid to be very fertile, but onely in ſome places to yield pit coals.

In *Carreg* Caſtle is a Well, that (like the ſea ebbs and flows twice in four and twenty hours.

Merionethshire.

THe air may be wholeſom, but the ſoil is but barren: For it is very full of ſpired Hills, being the moſt Mountainous ſhire in *Wales*, except *Caernarvon* ſhire. This ſhire is alſo ſubject to many and extraordinary great winds.

Near *Bala* is a great pool of water that drowns at leaſt 160. acres of ground, whoſe nature is (as they ſay) ſuch, that the high land-floods, though never ſo great, cannot make this pool to ſwell bigger; but if the air be troubled with violent tempeſts of winds, it riſeth above its banks. The

River *Dee* runneth into this pool (saith *Speed*) with a sharp stream, and slides through it (as they say) without mixture of waters. For in this pool is bred the fish called *Guinjad*, which is never seen in *Dee*. And in *Dee* Salmons are taken, which are never found in the pool.

Upon the sea-coast of this shire, great store of Herrings are taken at the time of year.

The sea beateth so sore and hard upon the West side of the shire, that it is thought it hath carried away part of it.

The *Welch* people tell great wonders of *Caer-Gai* in this shire; but what they are, I know not.

Cambden tels us, that the people of this shire are much given to idleness and wantonness. I much wonder at it, because it is generally observed, that hilly Countreys are least subject to those two vices, breeding for the most part hardy and warlike people. Indeed I have heard (how truly I cannot say) that *Cambden* was not altogether so ingenuous in this Character, as he should have been; for (they say) when he came to visit this County in his preambulation, he received some unhandsom affront at one place, which provoked his choler to bestow this brand of infamy upon the *Merioneth*-shire men.

Caernarvonshire.

THe air of this shire is sharp and piercing. Here are extraordinary high hills (the highest in all *Wales*) on some of which the Snow lyes long, and on others it lyes all the year long hard crusted together. A thing not at all to be wondred at, since on the Alps, and many other Mountains much more southerly then our Island, it doth the like. The consideration of which hath bred an opinion in me, that the Globe of the Earth and Sea is of an Elliptick, or Oval form; that is, like an Egg. And my reason is this: I suppose that every yeare under both the Poles, there falls a quantity of snow, (either little or much, in the time of the suns being at the contrary Tropick, and likely enough at other times of the year too) which the Sun when he hath greatest power upon it, cannot melt all. And this is more then probable, because not only in *Greenland*, but also here in this shire, and (if we wil believe *Munster*) on the top of the Alps too, there are Mountainous Crusts of frozen snow that never were melted. So that now after so many years lapse it cannot be, I think, but that the Diameter of the earth

from pole to pole, from the top of the snow at one end of the earth, to the top of it at the other end, is much longer then in any part under the Equator, though at the Creation it were (as I believe) made spherical. And so I suppose in longer process of time it will grow more oblong. And as it so increaseth in length, so I believe the sea will decrease in depth, (tho gh both very insensibly) because snow must consist of something, and that something can be nothing but a watry vapour condensed and congealed, &c. And this watry vapour must be drawn out of the sea, or out of that part of the earth which once (sooner or later) received it from the sea: And this snow being thrown down at the Poles, and not melting, that so it may return from whence it came, and re-fil that which is emptied, must needs cause a decrease in the sea. Now that which tempts me to embrace this Paradox the more affectionately, is, for that it serves excellently well to solve a great doubt, which troubled *Tycho* and *Keppler* about centrel Eclipses of the Moon, that happen near the Equator, such as that was which *Tycho* observed in the year 1588. and that which *Keppler* observed in the yeare 1624. concerning which hee speaks to this purpose. *Notandum est hanc Lunæ Eclipsin (instar illius, quam* Tycho, *anno* 1588. *observavit, totalem, & proximam centrali) egregie calculum fefelliſſe. Nam non solum mora totius Lunæ in tenebris brevis fuit, sed & duratio reliqua multò magis. Perinde quasi Tellus Elliptica esset, dimetientem breviorem habens sub Æquatore longiorem à Polo uno*

ad

ad alterum: that is, We must note that this Eclipse of the Moon (*viz.* that on the 26. of *September, stylo Novo*, 1624. like that which *Tycho* observed in the year 1588. being a total, and almost centrel one, did notoriously deceive my calculation; for not onely the duration of the total obscurity was short, but also the rest of the duration before and after the total obscurity much shorter; as if (saith he) the Earth were Elliptical, having a shorter Diameter under the Equator, then from one Pole to another. And yet I am not so devoted to my own fancies, but that one solid reason shall prevail with me to abandon the dearest of them, though for the present I see abundance of reason for what I think.

In some places of this shire are bred certain Shel-fish, which being produced (saith my Author) by an heavenly dew, bring forth Pearls.

In the Pool called *Lin-paris* there is (as it is reported) a kind of fish called *Torcoch*, having a red belly, which is nowhere else to be seen but here.

It is said also, that on the high hills of this shire are two Meres, one of which produceth fish that have but one eye; and in the other is a moveable and floting Iland, which as soon as a man treads on, it presently flotes a great way off. But *Speed* thinks they are both but fables.

Snowdon Hills (saith *Cambden*) although they have snow always lying on them, yet are exceeding rank with grass, insomuch that they are become a Proverb among the *Welsh*; and it is certain, that there are pools and standing waters upon the very tops of these Mountains; and

they are so coated with that snowy crust that lyes on them, that if a man do but lightly set his foot any where on the top of the Mountains, he shal perceive the earth to stir the length of a stones cast from him; which I suppose might occasion the fable of the Floting Island mentioned but now.

Anglesey.

IN diverse places (saith *Hugh Lloyd*) in the low grounds and Champion fields of this Island, the Inhabitants do every day find and dig out of the earth the bodies of huge Trees, with their Roots, and Firre-Trees of a wonderful bigness and length: Which Trees he thinks were such as were cut down by the *Romans* in their time; because *Tacitus* saith, the *Romans* when they had conquered this Island, caused all their Woods to be cut down, and utterly destroyed. But if some be found with their roots on, I cannot think so, but rather impute these spoils made on Maritime places to the want of industry and husbandry in the first ages of the world.

This

This Island was in times past full of Woods and Timber; but instead of that now, it yeeldeth plenty of Corn, Sheep, and Cattel. The air is reasonable healthful, save onely a little aguish at some time, and in some places, by reason of the fogs that rise from the sea. It yeildeth also great store of Mil-stones, and Grind-stones; and in some places is found an Aluminous earth, of which they may make *Alume* and *Copperas*, but it must be with some cost and labour.

This Island (saith *Hugh Lloyd*) yeilds every year such plenty of wheat, that they call it the Mother of *Wales*.

Denbighshire.

THe air of this shire is cold, but very wholsome, and the snow lyes long on the hils; for it is a hilly Countrey, the high hils resembling the battlement of Walls; on the tops of which, when vapors rise in the morning in Summer time, it foreshews a fair day to follow.

The higheſt hil in the shire, called *Moilenlly*, hath a spring of clear water on the top of it.

The people living in the Vale (saith *Cambden*) are very healthful; their heads sound and firm; their eye-sight never dim, and their age very lasting and chearful.

The little *Riveret* called *Alen*, runs under ground once or twice.

Near the little Town *Moinglath*, is plenty of Lead.

In the weſt part of the ſhire where the ground is barren, they pare away the ſurface of the earth into turfs with a broad ſpade, and burn them, and lay the aſhes of them upon thoſe grounds, which enriches them much. This way of enriching Land was uſed anciently by the *Romans*, and ſpoken of both by *Virgil* and *Horace*.

In the year 1574, *February* the 26. were great Earthquakes, which did many people much hurt, both within doors, and without, in *York*, *Worceſter*, *Hereford*, *Glouceſter*, *Briſtol*, and other places adjacent. This ſhaking of the earth made the Bell in the Shire-Hall of *Denbigh* to toll twice, but did no other harm at all thereabouts.

Flintshire.

THe air of this shire is healthfull, without any Fogs or Fenny vapours, saving that sometimes there riseth from the Sea, and the River *Dee*, certain thick and smoky mists which yet hurt not at all; for the people here are very aged, and healthfull. The air is colder here then in *Cheshire*, because it is encompassed with the Sea and the River, so that the Northwinds being carried long upon the waters blow the colder; whence it is, that snow lyes very long here upon the hills. The Country affordeth great plenty of Cattle, but they are but small.

Millstone is digged in this shire, as well as in *Anglesey*.

Towards *Dee*, an arm of the Sea, the fields bear in some places Barley, in others Wheat, but generally throughout Rye, with twenty fold increase, and better, (especially every first year, that they be new broken up, and sowen) and afterwards four or five crops together of Oats.

At the mouth of the River *Cluid* the valley on the land seemeth to be lower, and to lye under the Sea, and yet the water to the admiration of the beholders never overfloweth into the valley. *There are many things in the world that are not as they seem, besides Hypocrites.*

Near

Near *Holy-well* in times past was a rich Mine of Silver.

Hard by *Kilken* is a little well, that at certain times ebbs, and flows.

In this shire is that excellent Well called Saint *Winifrids* Well, or *Holy-Well*, so famous for the strange cures of aches, and lameness, that it hath done. The water of it is extream cold; and the brook that flowes from it hath so plentifull and violent a stream, that it is presently able to drive a mill. The stones about it are as it were spotted with bloody spots, and there are many red stones in the bottome of it. The mos that grows on the sides of it, is of an exceeding sweet smell, and (they say) though some of it be given to every stranger that comes, yet it never wasteth.

York-

Yorkſhire.

YOrkſhire being a ſhire of a very large extent (the biggeſt in *England*) hath variety of air, and as great variety of ſoil, ſome barren, and ſome fertile.

In ſome parts of the Shire, *viz.* near *Shirburn*, are quarries of Stone, the ſtones whereof being newly hewen, and taken forth of the quarry, are very ſoft, but ſeaſoned with wind and weather, of themſelves become very hard and durable. And in other parts is a kind of Limeſtone, which being burnt ſerves to manure and enrich thoſe lands, that are cold and hilly.

About *Pomfret* and *Knareſborough* grows great quantity of Liquorice.

About *Knareſb*, alſo is great ſtore of yellow Marle, which it may be is a kindly earth for production of Liquorice, becauſe of the ſame colour with it. But whether the like Marle be as plentifull about *Pomfret*, I cannot tell. So much indeed *Speed* ſaith, that great plenty of Skirriwort (or Skirrets) grow about *Pomfret*, but he ſaith nothing of the quality of the ſoile.

It is reported that at the ſuppreſſion of the Abbies by *Henry* the eight, in a certain Chappell in

in *York* a Lamp was found burning in a Vault or Sepulchre under ground, wherein *Constantius* the Emperour was supposed to have been buried. Which kind of Lamps *Lazius* means, when he saith that in old time they had a way to preserve light in Sepulchers by an artificiall resolving of gold into a liquid and fatty substance, which would continue burning for many ages together.

There are many iron Mines about *Sheffield*.

About the year of Christ 759. the Town of *Doncaster* was burnt by fire from heaven.

Some of the inhabitants about *Dickmarsh* and *Marshland* are of opinion that the land there is hollow, and hanging, and that as the waters rise, the land is also heaved up. And the like (saith mine Author) *Pomponius Mela* hath written of *Antrum* an Isle some where in *France*.

About *Brotherton* is a yellow kind of Marle found, which being cast upon fields, makes them bear good Corn for many years together. Querie, *Whether the ground here (as about* Knaresborough) *would not be proper for the planting of Liquorice.*

The River *Wherfe* is a mighty swift River, roaring, and sometimes driving the stones in it before it. Though this River have many waters fall into it, yet at *Tadcaster* Bridge it is in a manner dry at Midsummer; but in the Winter it is so deep, that the bridge is scarce able to receive so much water. It seems by the story that this River hath many great shoots into it, and that it is fed chiefly by land Springs, which run highest in Winter. Of the swiftness of Rivers we have spoken before.

At

At *Tadcaſter* Limeſtone is digged, which is counted a very good and ſtrong Lime.

The Abby of Fountains hath Lead Mines near it.

Near *Burrow*-Briggs are certain Pyramids ſtanding, which are ſuppoſed by ſome to have been made of a factitious ſtone compounded of pure ſand, Lime, Vitriol, and ſome unctuous matter. See before, what we have ſaid touching the *Stonehenge* upon *Salisbury* plain.

Under *Knareſborough* is a Well called *Dropping-well*, in which the waters Spring not out of the veins of the earth, but diſtill from the Rocks that hang over it. This water turns wood into ſtone; for wood put into it will ſhortly after be covered over with a ſtony bark, and at length become ſtone, as hath been often tryed, ſaith *Speed*.

Alevinus in an Epiſtle of his to *Egelred* King of *Northumberland* ſpeaks of the raining of blood on St. *Peters* Church at *York* even in a fair day, which deſcended in a very violent manner from the top of the roof of the Church; And thereupon breaks forth into theſe words, May it not be thought, that blood is coming upon the land from the North parts? And not long after (to fulfil his prediction) the *Danes* invaded *England*, and among other their outrages, burnt the City of *York*.

At *Giggleſwick* a mile from *Settle* (and a way-bit) are ſmall Springs not diſtant from one another a quoits caſt, the middlemoſt of which at every quarter of an hour ebbs and flows about the height of a quarter of a yard, when it is higheſt;

and

and at the ebbe falls so low, that it is not an inch deep with water.

The little River *Derwent* increased by rain, doth often overflow its banks. It seems there are great shoots into it, and great windings in it.

The Rivers *Humber* and *Ouse* have a very forcible current, and flow with a great noise, being dangerous for those, that sail the ein.

Great store of *Goats* about *Sureby*; And upon the hills of this Shire toward *Lancashire* is the like for *Goats* and *Deer*.

Near *Flamborough* Head (saith *Cambden*) it is reported, that there are certain waters called Vipseys, which flow every other year out of blind Springs, and run with a very violent stream through the low Land, into the Sea. They rise (they say) from many Springs meeting together within the ground, which makes their stream so forcible on a sudden. When they are dry, it is a good sign; but when they break out, they say it is a certain sign of dearth to follow. Yet when I travelled here, (saith he) I could hear nothing of these Springs, although I enquired very earnestly after them.

Scarborough Castle hath a little Well of fresh water springing out of a Rock.

Scarborough is the chief place for catching of Herrings at time of the year. In our great grandfathers days (saith *Cambden*) the Herrings kept altogether about the coast of *Norway*, but now in our times they swim every year round about *Britain*, by shoale in huge numbers. About Midsummer they shoale out of the deep and vast Northern

Seas

Seas to the coasts of *Scotland*, at which time they are at the fattest. From thence they come to the East coast of *England*, and from the middle of *August* to *November* is the best taking them between *Scarborough* and the *Thames* mouth. Afterwards by some great storme they are carried into the *British* Sea, and there till Christmas are caught by Fishermen in their nets. From hence dividing themselves, and swimming along both sides of *Ireland*, after they have coasted round about *Britain*, they take their course into the North Seas again, as their home; and there they rest till *June*, where after they have cast their spawn, and gotten a young fry, they return again, as before. To this doth that of St. *Ambrose* agree, where he saith, that Fishes in infinite numbers swim together, and make towards the blasts of the North wind, and by a certain instinct of nature hasten into the Sea of the North parts; And thus (saith he) they swim through *Propontis* into *Pontus Euxinus*.

At *Whitbay* are Serpents (or snakes) of stone found. Query whether the soile be such thereabout, as I have described it about *Alderley* in *Gloucestershire*; as also whether there be any difference in the shape, colour, or bigness of the one or the other.

Wild Geese flying over certain fields near *Whitbay* in the Winter time to pools and Rivers that are not frozen, in the South parts, suddenly fall to the ground, from a secret antipathy, as is thought.

Upon the shore by *Moulgrave* Castle is found *Jeat*. It grows among the Cliffs and Rocks, where they

they gape asunder. Before it be polished, it is of a reddish rusty colour, but after it is of an excellent black as every one knows. It is said by some of the Ancients, that *Jeat* put into water, will take fire and burn, and that oyl quencheth it: but experience tells us it is not so.

At *Skengrave* a little Village in *Cleaveland*, in the Northriding of the shire about the year 1535 a Triton or Manfish was taken, as it is reported, that for certain days together fed upon raw fish, but espying his opportunity he got away to Sea again, and was seen no more.

Upon this shore by *Skengrave*, whensoever it is calme, and the Sea (as it were) levell, there is heard many times on a sudden an horrible and fearfull groaning, as it were a great way off, at which time the fishermen dare not lanch out into the deep.

Near unto *Hunt-cliffe* upon the same shore (and not far from the shore) there appear certain Rocks, about which the Seal-fishes meet together to sleep and Sun themselves. And upon that Rock that is next the shore, one of the Seals lyes to keep Centinell; and as any man approacheth, he either throws down a big stone; or tumble himselfe into the water with a great noise, as a signall to the rest to awake, and get into the water. They are not afraid of women, but onely of men, and therefore they that will catch them, put on womens apparell. When they are chased by men, if they be destitute of water, they will with their hinder feet fling backward a cloud of sand and gravell in the faces and eyes of their pursuers; Yea, and many

many times drive them away, making them weary of their deſign by this means.

Upon the ſame ſhore are found ſtones, ſome yellow, ſome reddiſh, ſome with a rough caſt cruſt over them of a Salt matter, which by their ſmell and taſt make ſhew of Copperas, Nitre and Brimſtone. Here are alſo great ſtore of Marcaſites in colour reſembling braſs.

At *Huntly Nab* at the roots of the craggy Rocks, that are there upon the ſhore, there lye ſtones ſkattering here and there, of diverſe bigneſſes, ſo artificially (and yet naturally) round, that one would think they had been turned for ſhot for great Ordnance. In which, if you break them, you ſhall find ſtony Serpents wrapped round (that is, juſt in the forme of the *Aderley* and *Keynſham* ſnakes) but moſt of them are headleſs. The way to break them is by heating them red hot in the fire, and then quenching them in cold water; for by that means they will fall aſunder of themſelves. Theſe ſtones (if that which I have be of this ſort, and he that gave it me aſſured me it was) are within of a pellucid whitiſh matter like Alabaſter, though not ſo white, and are on the out ſide covered over with a coat ſo abſolutely like braſs, that I think they cannot be diſtinguiſhed. The outward form of them is juſt like the *Glocesterſhire* ſtones, with a ſpine and ribbs. The ſtone that I have is about an inch in Diameter, but I have ſeen two or three more, that were near two inches in Diameter. I have another ſtone ſomewhat like this I ſpeak of, but it is not above a Barley corn in Diameter. It hath a braſſy coat, and is

wreathed snake-like, as the other: But it is no pellucid within, nor so light coloured; and with all it hath no Spine, but instead of it four rows o prickles very curiously wrought; and it is muc bigger toward the head, and lesser at the taile then the other. Whether it were found at th same place with the other I know not, neither di the giver tell me. There is a place in Provence i *France*, near the mouth of the Rhosne called th Stone field, where several acres are covered with such stones exactly round, & the like is in the Islan *Cuba* in *America*) but whether there be Serpent in them or no, I never heard nor read.

Gisourgh is much commended for a healthfull place, far exceeding *Puteoli* in *Italy*. The land about it is very fertile, and beareth flowers a great part of the year, and is withall extraordinary full of veins of metall, and Alume-earth of sundry colours, but especially of Ochre and Murray; As also of Iron, out of which (saith my Author *Cambden*) they have begun to try very good Alume and Coperas. These veins of earth Sir *Thomas Chaloner*, Prince *Henry* his Tutor, first discovered, by observing, that the leaves of the trees were of a more weak green colour here, then elsewhere; that the Oaks had their roots spreading broad, but very ebbe (or shallow) within the earth, which had much strength, but small store of sap; and that the earth standing upon clay, and being of diverse colours; whitish, yellowish, and blew, was never frozen; and in a clear night glittered in the paths like glass.

Almost at the top of *Roseberry-topping* (a very high

high hill hard by *Gilsburgh* there is a Spring of water, coming out of a huge Rock, medicinable for sore eyes. *It is likely to be an oily water.*

When *Roseberry-topping* hath a cloudy cap on, there commonly follows rain. Whence this rimeing Proverb is very frequent with the people:

When Roseberry-topping wears a Cap,
Let Cleaveland then beware a clap.

The River *Recall* hides it self under ground near *Elmesly* in this Riding.

Abundance of Springs rise together at *Hinderskell* a little Castle, near *Sherry-Hutton* Castle.

The hills in *Richmondshire* are well stored with Lead, Copper, and Pit-Coals. And on the tops of these hills stones have been found like Sea-winkles, Cockles, and other fish. Which (saith *Camden*) are either naturall, or else are the reliques of *Noahs* flood petrified. *Orosius* speaks as much of Oysters of stone found upon hills far from the Sea, which have been eaten in hollow with the water. In all likelyhood these stone-fishes are of the same kind with ours in *Gloucestershire.*

Plenty of Lead-stones in *Wentsedale.*

The River *Ure* is full of Creasishes; but the breed was brought thither out of the South parts of *England* by Sir *Christopher Medcalfe.* It may be from *Newbury* in *Barkeshire*, where there are the like plenty.

The River *Swale* is a very swift River.

Mask in this shire is full of Lead Ore.

There is a place in this shire called St. *Wilfrids* Needle, being a passage so narrow, that one of a

mean bulk can but just creep through it. The story goes of it, that it easily lets chast women through, but holds fast those, that have plaid false. However the thing may seem a Fable at first sight, yet if the women, that have plaid false, be with child, it may be true without wonder.

The Bishoprick of Durham.

THe air of this County is sharp and piercing, and would be more, but that the vapours of the Sea do help to dissolve the ice and snow. The Eastern part of it is the richest, the South is moorish, and the West all Rocky without grass or grain, onely it feeds Cattle, and is well stored with Coal, as indeed the whole County is, being the greatest in *England* for great Coals. And the Coals grow so near the surface of the earth, that the Cart wheels turn them up in the trod-ways.

In the West part of this County are Iron Mines. Query, whether all Mines be not in a hilly Country.

The East part of the County yields a great plenty of Coale, and yet where it hath plenty of it, it is likewise fruitfull and good land.

At *Egleston* is a Marble quarry.

Near *Darlington*, whose waters are warm (hot saith

ſaith *Cambden*) and by an Antiperiſtaſis, or reverberation of the cold air) are three pits wonderfull deep, called Hell kettles. Theſe are thought to come of an earthquake, that happened *Anno* 1179. For on Chriſtmas day (ſay our Chronicles) at *Oxenhall* (which is this place) the ground heaved up aloft like a Tower, and ſo continued all that day as it were immovable till evening, and then fell in with a very horrible noiſe, and the earth ſwallowed it up, and made in the ſame place three deep pits.

It is reported that Biſhop *Tunſtall* put a Gooſe into one of thoſe pits, having firſt given her a mark, and the ſame Gooſe was found in the River *Tees*, ſo that it ſeems theſe Kettles have paſſages under ground.

Within the River *Weere* at *Butterby* near *Durham*, in Summer time there iſſues a ſalt reddiſh water, from the ſides of certain ſtones at the ebbe & low water, which with the Sun waxes white, & growing thick becoms a ſalt, which the people thereabouts alwayes uſe. *Cambden* ſaith further, that if you pour water upon theſe ſtones, and temper it a little with them, it will ſuck in a ſaltiſh quality.

Lancashire.

THe air of this County is thin and piercing, not troubled with groſs miſts or fogs. And the people are very comly, healthfull and long lived, and not ſubject to ſtrange diſeaſes. The ſoile is not very fruitfull, yet it breeds great number of Cattle, that are of huge proportion, and have goodly heads and large ſpread horns. Here is alſo fiſh and fowle on the Sea coaſts in good plenty, and in other places of the ſhire the like ſtore of Coals, and a competent increaſe of flax. Where the ground is plain, it is good for wheat, and barley; that which lyes at the bottome of hils is better for oats.

Along the Sea ſide in many places lye heaps of Sand, upon which the people pour water till it contract a ſaltiſh humour from the ſand; and thus they boile with turfs, till it become white ſalt.

This ſhire in divers places ſuffereth much by the flowing fury of the Sea, as in *Fourneſs*, much of which the Sea hath eaten away by little and little. The cauſe is plain. For who can expect leſs, where a ſhore full of quickſands (as this is) is waſhed, and beaten upon by a Sea, hardly ever quiet, ſuch as

there are little fishes, which the diggers take. And just in the same manner (saith *Cambden*) fishes are digged out of the earth at *Heraclea*, and *Tios* in *Pontus*. But that which is much stranger, is, that in *Paphlagonia* many, and those very good fishes are gotten by digging in places nothing wateriſh; but (saith he) this is a secret in nature.

On the very top of *Pendle-hill* grows a peculiar plant, called *Cloudesberry*, as though it came out of the clouds. This hill (saith *Cambden*) lately did the country much harm near it, by reason of an extraordinary deal of water gushing out of it. It is also famous for an infallible signe of rain, whensoever the top of it is covered with a mist.

There are three great hills here, not far distant asunder, seeming to be as high, as the clouds, which are *Ingleborrow*, *Penigent*, and this *Pendle*.

In the River *Lune* near *Cockersand* Abbey is great store of *Salmon*; That fish delighting, and thriving best in shallow, sandy, and clear Rivers.

Cum-

Cumberland.

THis County (like the reſt of the rough Northern Countries) hath ſharp piercing aire which would be worſe, if the high Hils in the North did not break of the ſtorms and falling Snow. The ſoil is fertile for the moſt parr, both for Corn and Cattel; and the Maritime places are wel furniſhed with Fiſh and Fowl, and the Rivers breed a kind of Muſck that beareth Pearl. And *Speed* tels us, that in the mouth of the River *Jet*, as they lye gaping and ſucking in the dew that falls, the people gather them, and ſel them.

In this County are many Mines of Copper, eſpecially at *Keſwick*, and *Newland*, where likewiſe the Black-Lead is found. Formerly there were Veins of Gold and Silver in the Copper-Mines about *Newland*.

At *Salkelds* upon the River *Eden*, is a Trophee of Victory, called by the Countrey people, *Long Meg and her Daughters*. They are 77 ſtones, each of them ten foot high above ground, and one amongſt the reſt is fifteen foot high.

Skiddaw-Hill riſeth up with two mighty high Heads, (like *Parnaſſus*) and beholds *Scruffel Hill* in

in *Annandale*, within *Scotland*: And according as mists rise or fall upon these heads, the people thereby prognosticate of the change of weather, singing this Rime:

If Skiddaw *have a Cap*,
Scruffel *wots full well of that.*

There are two other exeeeding high Hills in this shire, called *Lauvellin* and *Castieand*.

The sea (as is before said) hath eaten a great part of the Land away, upon the shores of these Western shires. There are on the shore of this shire Trees discovered sometimes by the Winds at low water, which are else covered over with Sand. And it is reported by the people dwelling thereabouts, that they dig up trees without boughs, out of the ground in the mossie places of the shire, and that by the direction of the dew in Summer; for they observe, that the dew never stands upon that ground under which they lye.

The earth and stones at *Penrith* are of a reddish colour.

Some Empirick Chirurgions of *Scotland* take their journey to the *Picts Wall* every year, in the beginning of Summer, to gather vulnerary Plants, which they say grow plentifully there, and are very effectual, being sowen and planted by the *Romans* for Chirurgical uses.

Nor-

Northumberland.

THe air of this ſhire alſo is ſharp and piercing of itſelf; but the Germane Ocean doth ſomewhat abate the edge of it, and helps to diſſolve the Ice and Snow. The ſoil is rough, hard, and barren, and it ſhould ſeem the inhabitants are long lived; for one Mr. *Macklain* a *Scotch* man, Parſon of *Lesbury*, (who died about the year 1659.) did in the year 1657. (two years before) renew his youth; ſo that (though for 40. years before he could not read without Spectacles, being 116. years of age) he would then read the ſmalleſt print without them. He had his hair, which before he had loſt, came again like a childs, *&c.* Which puts me in mind of an aged Dean, who had the like renovation of age, and when he dyed, he had this Epitaph beſtowed by ſome barbarous pen upon his Tomb:

Hic jacet edentulus, Canus, atq; Decanus;
Rurſum denteſcit, nigreſcit, & hic requieſcit.

There are Hills hard by *North Tine* ſo boggy, and ſtanding with Water on the top, that no Horſeman is able to ride over them. And yet there are great heaps of ſtones caſt up together upon them, which it may be, is the mark of ſome victory.

By

By *Bywell* Caſtle is great ſtore of Salmons: As indeed there is in moſt of the Rivers in the North of *England*, and in *Scotland*.

Coquet Iſle hath a Vein of Sea-Cole in it.

The Iſle of MAN.

Hath cold and ſharp air: It yeilds much Hemp and Flax. The Cattel and Sheepe are ſmaller then ours in *England*, being much like thoſe in *Ireland*, which are but ſmall neither, nor have their Cattel ſo fair a head as ours.

Many Trees are found and digged out of the earth in this Iſland: And they have here a clammy turf, which they burn for their fewel.

In the *Calf* of *Man* are abundance of *Puffins*, as alſo *Bernacles*, which the people there ſay are bred of rotten wood.

The ſoil of the *Iſle of Man* (ſaith *H. Lloyd*) is reaſonable fertile, both for Corn and Graſs, and yeilds good plenty of Barley, Wheat and Rye, but eſpecially of Oats, and feeds great ſtore of Cattel and Sheep; yet the Land is more waſte and barren then that of *Angleſey*; and the people that are born and bred here, are weaker, and leſs fit for the Wars.

Weſtmorland.

THe air here is ſharp and piercing, not ſubje to groſs fogs and vapours, by reaſon which, the people are free from ſtrange and inf ctious Diſeaſes, being very healthful, and livin generally to great ages. The ſoil is mooriſh an barren for the moſt part, yet the Southern part is not ſo bad as the reſt.

Near the River Loder, is a ſpring that ebb and flows many times in a day: And in the ſam place there are huge ſtones like Pyramids (ſom of them are nine foot high, and fourteen foo thick) pitched directly in a row for a mile toge ther

In the River Can, near Kendale, are two Catar rhacts, or Water-falls, where the waters deſcen with a great fall, and mighty noiſe. And whe that which ſtandeth North from the Neighbour living between them, ſounds clearer and loude then the other, they certainly look for fair wea ther to follow; but when that on the ſouth ſide doth ſo they expect fogs and ſhowers of rain.

By Kirkby Lonſdale are many deep and hollow places like Caves.

In ancient time the Pearl-bearing Muskles are found upon this ſhore, which conceive by the dew which they ſuck in; and they are to be found at this day both here, & in the rivers of Cumberland.

Cumber-

Scotland.

THE air of this Kingdom hath its variety according to the ſcituation of ſeveral places and parts of it; but generally it is healthful, becauſe cold. The Soil in the High-lands is very poor and barren generally, but in the low lands it is good, and beareth excellent Oats, much ranker then ours in *England*. The people are ſtrong of body, and of good proportion. Their Cattel are but ſmall. Their beſt Nags are bred about *Galloway*. For *Bernacles*, or *Soland-Geeſe*, they have ſo infinite a number of them, that they even darken the Suns light. Theſe Geeſe are moſt rife about the *Baſſe*, an Iſland at the mouth of the *Frith*, going up to *Edenbrough*; and hither they bring an incredible number of fiſhes, and withal, ſuch an abundance of ſticks, and little twigs to build their neſts, that the people are very plentifully provided of fewel, who alſo make a great gain of their Feathers and Oil. There hath been great diſpute among the Learned, about the generation of theſe Geeſe, ſome holding that they were bred of the leaves of the Bernacle Tree falling into the Waters others that they were bred of moiſt rotten Wood lying in the Waters, but it is ſince found, that they come of an Egg, and are hatched as all other Geeſe are.

Lough-

Lough-Rian is ful of Herrings and Stone-fishes saith *Cambden*.

Near the head of the River *Cluyd* in *Crawford* Moor, in wild, waste places, certain Husbandmen of the Countrey after great store of violent rain, happened to find small p ieces like scrapings of Gold, which gave them hopes of finding a Mine of Gold. Indeed (saith *Cambden*) there is Azure gotten out every day without any labour at all. Thus saith *Cambden*, *Ortelius* tels us, That in *Drisdale* in *Scotland* is a Mine of Gold, in which also is found that which they commonly call *Lazure*. It may be these are but two diverse stories of one and the same thing.

There is a Well near *Edenburgh* (saith *Speed*) that floteth with *Bitumen*: There is a Spring about two miles from *Edenbrough* (saith *Ortelius*) on the top of the Water whereof, drops of Oil continually, swim, so as if you take none from it, there wil be never the more; and if you take any from thence, there wil be never the less: Which Oil is good for th e roughnes of the skin Likely the same thing diversly related.

In *Galloway* (saith *Ortelius*) is a Lake called *Myrtoun*, part of whose Waters freezes in the Winter, as other Waters do; but the other part was never known to be frozen in the greatest Frost that ever were.

In *Loghabre* are Iron-Mines, saith *Cambden*. And somewhere in *Scotland Ortelius* saith there are Lead-Mines.

In the Province of *Coile* (saith *Ortel'us*) about ten Miles from *Aire*, is a stone hardly twelve foot

foot high, and 33. cubits thick, called the *Deaf Rock*, on the one side of which, though you make never so great a noise, nay if you shoot off a piece of Ordinance, it shall hardly be heard on the other side, except you be a good way off from it, and then the sound may easily be perceived.

In *Buqhan* Rats are never seen: And if any be brought in thither, they wil not live:

This Country of *Buqhan* yeilds the finest Wool in all *Scotland*: And *Lorn* the best barley.

The Rivers of the coast of *Buqhan* are wel stored with *Salmon*, and yet they never enter into the River *Ratra*.

On the banks of this River *Ratra*, in *Buqhan*, is a Cave near unto *Stanys Castle*, in which is Water, which dropping out of a natural Vault, presently turneth into [illegible] amidal stones, of a middle nature, between ice and hard stone. It is brittle and crumbling, and never cometh to the hardness of Marble: And if the Cave were not rid of these stones, as they fall, the whole Cave would shortly be filled.

The Waters of the River *Nessa*, and of the *Lough-Nessa*, is alwayes warm, and never freezeth.

The *Lough-Lomund* is about 30. or 24. miles long, and eight miles broad. It is wel stored with fish, and particularly with one kind of fish, very wholesome and good, called a *Pollac*, which is no where else to be found. *Necham* saith, that this *Lough* turneth sticks into stones. In this *Lough* (saith *Ortelius*) are thirty Islands, where-

of divers have Villages inhabited, and Churches; and one of them, which is very good for feeding of Cattel, flotes up and down in the Lake, as it is carried by the Wind: Not unlike those Islands reported by *Pliny* to be in the Lake *Vadimon*, which are ful of Grass, and covered over with rushes and reeds, and swim up and down in the Lake. There are the like also near St. *Omars* by *Calais*. In the *Lough Lomund* also are fishes without finns. Further, it is the nature of this *Lough* to rage, and rise in waves most of all in the fairest and calmest weather, so that boats are often cast away.

The River *Douglass* hath a black greenish Water.

In the Wood *Caledonia* in old time, were white Bulls, wild, and very fierce, whose manes were like Lyons, thick and curled: And so hatefull they were to mankinde, that they abhorred whatsoever was handled, or breathed upon by men. And *Martial* and *Plutarch* speak of bears here,

In *Sutherland* (saith *Cambden*) there are whole Hills of white Marble.

Towards the North of *Scotland* (saith *Speed*) there be Mountains all of *Alablaster*, and some all of *Marble*.

Fife is wel stored with Pit-Coals; and the shores of it are as largely stored with Oysters and other Shel-fish.

In the Rivers *Dee* and *Done* is great store of *Salmon*, and a shel-fish called the *Horse-Muskle* in which there grow Pearls, as Orient as the best.

The Countrey of *Athole* is infamous for witches, and wicked women.

Near *Falkirk* (saith *Lythgow*) remain the ruines and marks of a Town, *&c.* swallowed up into the Earth by an Earth-quake, and the void place is filled with water.

It is credibly reported (saith *Ortelius*) that in *Argile* there is a kind of stone to be found, which if it be covered but a while with straw or flax, it wil set it on fire.

The same Author saith, That in the Countrey of *Caric* are very great Oxen, whose flesh is very tender, and of a very pleasant and delicate taste, and the fat never waxes hard, but is thin, like liquid Oyle; and that the sea also on this coast affords great store of Oysters, Cockles, Congers, Herrings (at time of year) *&c.* Also he saith, That

At the mouth of the River *Frith*, in the main Sea, is a very high Rock, out of whose top a spring of fresh water runs abundantly.

The snow lies all the year long upon the hills in *Ross*.

A huge piece of Amber (saith *Cambden*) as big as an Horse, was not long since cast upon the shore of *Buqhan*. Note that this shore lies almost over-against the mouth of the *Baltick* sea, in which sea upon the shores of *Prussia* and *Pomerland*, both Jeat and Amber are often found, as *Geographers* generally assure us. *Serapio*, and the Modern *Philosophers* say, that Amber is a clammy Bituminous Earth, lying under the sea, and by the sea-side, of which tempests cast part upon

on the ſhore, and fiſhes devour the reſt.

Near a place called *Diſert* in *Fife*, which ſtands by the ſea ſide, is a Heath, where there is great plenty of an Earthy Bitumen, and it partly burneth.

In the Countrey of *Argile* (ſaith *Cambden*) at this day there are Kine and red Deer ranging wild upon the hills.

In the Countrey of *Murray* is a Meer that breeds and maintains a great abundance of Swans, by the help of the herb, called *Olorina*, which grows very plentifully in it, ſaith *Cambden*.

The River of *Aberden* breeds great ſtore of *Salmon*.

The Wool in *Galloway* (ſaith *Lithgow*) is nothing inferiour to that of *Biſcay* in *Spain*: And the Mutton is as ſweet as the Wool is fine.

Between the coaſt of *Cathnes*, and the Iſle of *South Rannaldſhaw* in *Orkney* (ſaith the ſame Author) is a dreadful Frith or Gulf, in the North weſt end of which, by reaſon of the meeting of ſeveral (he ſaith nine) contrary tides or Currents, is a Mael-ſtream, or great Whirl-pool, that whirleth ever about. And if any Ship, Boat, or Bark, come within the ſphere of its activity, (as it may be called) they muſt quickly throw over ſome thing into it, as a barrel, a piece of timber, or ſuch like, or elſe the Veſſel wil inevitably be ſwallowed up. Which the *Cathnes* and *Orkney* Mariners know very wel, and obſerve it as a conſtant cuſtom to redeem themſelves that way from danger.

The

The *HEBRIDES.*

In *Alize*, one of these Isles (saith *Ortelius*) is abundance of *Soland*-Geese: And the same Author saith, that another Isle of them is a fertile soil for Corn, and rich in Veins of Metal.

The *ORCADES.*

In these Isles grow no trees; yet the Land bears barley, and other grain, but no wheat at all: They breed no Serpent, nor any venemous beast; nor wil any such creature live, being brought into one of these Islands from other places. They have store of barley (saith *Hector Boethius*) and make much Ale, and are great drinkers; and yet you shall never see a drunken man, or a mad man, or a natural fool among them. And they live very long without the use of Physick.

In the Isle *Pomonia* is plenty of tin and lead.

The Iland of *Zeal* (saith *de la Mothe le Vayer*) one of the Isles of *Schetland*, wil not endure any creature that is not bred and born there.

Holy Island.

The air of it is sickly, because it is both cold and foggy; the soil is rocky and barren.

Farn

Farne-Island.

This Isle hath a very sickly air, subject to th Dysentery (or bloudy Flux) and other diseases b reason of the frequent fogs there. It is also muc troubled with tempests of wind, storms of rain and rage of the Sea. The soil is barren, and goo for little. This Island, and Holy-Island yield goo store of fish and fowle.

Garnesey

Hath a very fruitfull soile. This Island hath nei ther Toad, Snake, Adder, or any other venemou creature; but *Jersey* hath great plenty of them.

Among the Rocks in this Island is found the hard stone, called *Smyris*, which Glasiers use, and Goldsmiths and Lapidaries to cut their stones with.

Jersey.

The air of this Island is very healthful, not subject to any diseases, but agues in *September*; And the Island is as fertile. Their sheep have most of them 4 horns a piece, but a very fine and white Wooll; of which our *Jersey* (as we call it) is made. Upon the coast of this Island in Summer time they catch excellent Conger and Lobster.

In *Jersey* they have no wood, but burn the Sea-weed (called *Fucus Marinus*) being dryed at the fire which groweth plentifully on the Rocks there, and with the ashes of this fewell they manure their fields, and make them very battle.

Alderny.

Both the air and land of this Island are commended to be indifferent good. In this Island was once

once found (as they say) a Giants tooth as big as a mans fist, that was thought to be one of his *Molares* or *Grinders*. *But I believe it was rather an Elephants tooth.*

Advertisements to the Curious and Ingenious.

In the year 1653. *I published a little Pamphlet* (*or Almanack*) *entituled*, Syzygiasticon Instauratum, *wherein I desired those that were Astronomically addicted to take notice of a little long black Cloud, lying cross the milky way, between the two Constellations of Cygnus and Cepheus, and neither increasing nor diminishing, nor moving from the place it first appeared in. I conceived then it was some new apparition, but finding it ever since in the same place where it was, and not perceiving it to alter in any respect, I began to think, that it hath been always there, and will be so to the* ; *And that, though it be obvious to every vulgar eye, yet it might be hid till our age, through the inobvertency of the greater part of Astronomers. Besides this,*

There is another thing, which I must needs recommend to the observation of Mathematicall men. Which is, that in February, *and for a little before, and a little after that month* (*as I have observed several years together*) *about six in the evening, when the Twilight hath almost deserted the* Horizon, *you shal see a plainly discernable way of the Twilight striking up toward the* Pleiades *or seven Starrs, and seeming almost to touch them. It is to be observed any clear night, but it is best* illuc nocte. *There is no such way to be observed*

ſerved at any other time of the year (that I can perceive) nor any other way at that time to be perceived, dancing up elſewhere. And I believe it hath been, and will be conſtantly viſible at that time of the year. But what the cauſe of it in nature ſhould be, I cannot yet imagine, but leave it to further enquiry.

There have been lately three ſorts of Teleſcopes invented by this Author, of two whereof triall hath been made, by M. Reeves *living over-againſt the foot and leg in* Long-Acre: *And the Author makes no doubt at all of the third.*

At the ſaid M. Richard Reeves *are to be had all ſorts of Teleſcopes, and all other ſorts of Optick glaſſes.*

FINIS.

ERRATA.

In *the Title over the pages for* Britania, *read* Britannia, *page* 7. *line ult. for* Veculam *read* Vetulam, *p.* 20. *l.* 26. *for* Sprayes Oſprayes, *p.* 25. 11. *for* will *r.* and fiſh thrive in, *r.* fiſh will live and thrive in, *p.* 36 *l.* 9. been *r.* being, *p.* 45 *l.* 4. *after* uckington *adde* (and) *p.* 55. *l.* 15, & 17. death *r.* dearth, *l.* 18 ſual *r.* unuſual, *p.* 55 *l.* 1. *r.* Hippocrates, *l.* 6. uſing *r.* riſing, 8. preſage *r.* prove, *p.* 56. *l.* 22. ſeeming *r.* ſeems, *p.* 63. *l.* 15. breath *r.* breadth, *p.* 98. *l.* 5. ſequi *r.* ſeſqui, *p.* 101. *l.* 13. & 102. Oxford *r.* Orford.

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